

**Lyme Disease Committee**  
of the  
**Board of Health**  
Dover, MA

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 7, 2013**  
**9:00 AM**

**Present:** Barbara Roth-Schechter, Matthew Schmid, Tim Holiner, George Giunta, Jim Palmer, Steve Kruskall, Mary Hable, Kate Cannie

**Absent:** Phil Trotter, Angela Wilson-Taylor, Mike Francis, Jay Walsh

**Visitor:** Denise Garlick

**1. Review and Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

Minutes of the October 24, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved.

**2. Internal Communications - Mary**

- Barbara announced that Diane has resigned from her position with the BOH. The task of finding her replacement is currently in progress.
- Barbara was asked by the Town Hall administrator if going forward we would hold our meetings in the Fireside Room instead of the Lower Conference Room. Discussion ensued regarding whether meeting in the Fireside Room would be an issue relative to the Open Meeting Law as well as easy access for the public to our meetings and the BOH. The LDC Committee voted unanimously to keep meeting in the Lower Conference Room. Barbara and Tim will discuss our concerns and this decision with the administrator. Post-meeting: Barbara discussed our decision with the Town Administrator who accepted the LDC decision and asked to reduce discussion/noise level if possible. Barbara agreed to this request.

**3. External Communications - Kate**

- Denise Garlick was introduced to the Committee and welcomed. A brief discussion of the lifecycle of the tick was provided. Ms. Garlick confirmed that she takes the problem of Lyme disease very seriously. Discussion ensued regarding how a more complete regional approach could be achieved through more education about Lyme disease.
- Kate provided an update on her research regarding legislative efforts to allow hunting on Sundays. She reported that there are currently only eleven states that do not allow hunting on Sundays and most of these are actively looking into changing this. She also noted that neighboring states including RI, VT, and NH allow hunting on Sundays. Kate proposed that we send letters to both the committee chair and the committee itself introducing the Dover LDC and voicing support for the legislation, and follow up by meeting with them. Kate took the action item to draft the letters.
- Barbara reported that there will be a public hearing at the MA State House concerning Bill H.989 ([malegislature.gov/Bills/188/House/h989](http://malegislature.gov/Bills/188/House/h989)) regarding prohibiting insurance companies from refusing to pay for Lyme disease treatment.
- Barbara reported that she was interviewed by Chris Bergeron of the *Metro West Daily News* on 10/25 and 10/26. The article was published on 10/28 and reflected positively on the Dover "regional

approach” to dealing with Lyme disease. The article is provided in the following link:  
<http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/news/x915437083/With-bow-hunting-season-underway-in-Weston-other-towns-debate-continues>

- Barbara reported that she had received an invitation to speak to the newly formed Middlesex Tick Task Force. The organization is a regional effort and was formed under the guidance of Michele Grzenda of Weston. Members include BOH representatives from various towns including Carlisle, Acton, Concord, and others.
- Barbara noted that the annual meeting of the Sudbury Valley Trustees West Suburban Conservation Council will be held on December 9<sup>th</sup> from 4pm-6pm. The topic will be Deer Management and Monitoring Impact: Discussion and Updates. George agreed to attend the meeting together with Barbara.
- Barbara pointed out that there is an interesting NYT video and article about ticks available via the following link: [www.nytimes.com/2013/10/30/science/earth/how-does-a-tick-do-its-dirty-work](http://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/30/science/earth/how-does-a-tick-do-its-dirty-work)

#### **4. Deer Management – Jim, George**

- Jim reported that a total of twelve deer (9 bucks and 3 does) have been harvested so far. Three of the twelve were harvested on private property included in the program. Medfield’s results are similar with 10-12 deer harvested so far.
- Jim reported on several incidences that occurred over the last two weeks, none of which involved hunters from the town program. In one case a resident reported a hunter in a stand on the trails in Noanet. Jim investigated and reported it to the Chief of Police. In another case a hunter in Noanet was spotted on a trail camera. This incident was also reported to the Chief. Another incident involved a buck that was shot in a remote location in Hale woods by a rogue hunter. The final incident involved the theft of a tree stand that was chained and locked in place. The thief used a bolt cutter to remove the stand.
- Discussion ensued about an additional private property that was added to the program.
- George provided a list of town properties included in the deer management program. Combined the properties add up to 945.4 acres. Administrators of these properties include TTOR, ConCom, DLCT, and the Selectmen.
- Steve reported that the DLCT was amenable to the idea of adding additional land to the deer management program. They will meet again on Tuesday and asked that a list of desired properties and a bullet-point “resume” of the hunters be provided. George provided guidance regarding which three properties were most desired. Barbara agreed to send to Steve the hunting regulations and requirements for the town program. Steve will let Barbara know if anything official from the LDC is required for communicating with the DLCT.

#### **5. Website - Matthew**

- The list of LDC Committee members needs to be updated on the website.

#### **6. Database/Archive – Tim**

- Tim continues to work on populating the archive with the 500 documents Barbara provided.

#### **7. DPH Summer Internship - All**

- Barbara reported the Julie contacted her and informed her that she is finalizing analysis of the carriage data. She confirmed that she did not have the confidence interval data so we will be without that information. Her final report is forthcoming.
- Barbara reported that Megan had also contacted her and informed her that she has accepted a job with the DPH in Boston.
- Discussion ensued about the project for this coming summer involving measuring tick densities inside and outside of fenced areas on Dover properties. Barbara reported that the ads placed soliciting residents to volunteer their property for the study yielded only one response. The Globe picked up on the ads, however, and referenced it in an article. Barbara contacted Dr. Rawinski who confirmed that he was not aware of other projects where small properties were measured for tick densities. Also, unfortunately he does not have an intern to volunteer for the project. The Committee agreed that general solicitation of properties will probably have to be supplemented with targeted solicitation of specific properties. Discussion also ensued about how many sites will be needed for the experiment. Action items for next time are the following:
  - Barbara will contact the one volunteer who has come forward so far.
  - Members of the Committee are to consult their individual networks in an effort to identify potential properties and forward the names of the owners of these properties to Barbara.
  - Barbara will draft a flier soliciting properties (Tim will review) that she will post at locations including the Dover Market, Dover Deli, gas station, Town Hall, library, transfer station, and the bank.
  - Barbara will provide the text of the flier to Mary who will post it on the Dover Mother's Association blog site.

## **8. Adjournment – All**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.