

Lyme Disease Committee
of the
Board of Health
Dover, MA

Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2013
9:00 AM

Present: Barbara Roth-Schechter, George Giunta, Jim Palmer, Steve Kruskall, Mary Hable, Phil Trotter, Kate Cannie

Absent: Tim Holiner, Matt Schmid, Mike Francis, Jay Walsh

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

Minutes of the November 21 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Internal Communications - Mary

- Barbara reported that a new BOH administrative assistant has been hired. She will be starting on January 6th 2014.
- Barbara reported that the resignation of Angela Wilson-Taylor has been received and submitted to the Town.

3. External Communications - Kate.

- Kate provided an overview of the legislative process as well as a status update on House Bill 714 An Act expanding the powers of the director of Fisheries and Wildlife. The legislation would allow for hunting by bow and arrow on Sundays during hunting season. Phil will be drafting a letter of support to be sent to members of the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture. A draft of this letter will be forwarded to committee members for their review prior to the next meeting. The committee discussed the reasons for support and benefits of Sunday hunting. The committee discussed developing a draft letter for citizens to submit to the legislators.
- Barbara reported that on January 8th, 2014 she would be attending the Weston Tick Task Force and will have an opportunity to speak/present. The committee hopes to have a letter of support of the pending legislation so that Barbara may share it with attendees.

4. Deer Management – Jim, George

- Jim reported that a total of twenty-five (25) deer (14 bucks and 11 does) have been harvested so far.
- Jim discussed information he has received from the Mass Wildlife Deer and Moose Project Leader regarding the impact of hunting on density of deer population. Jim shared a chart that illustrates the impact of hunting vs. no hunting on deer population. The detail showed that deer harvesting increased in Dover upon the implementation of the DMP by an average of 20 deer per year (from an average of 50 to an average of 70). According to MWL estimates there are 28 deer per square mile, but 80% of Zone 10 land is closed to hunting. Deer density will progressively, but slowly, decrease with effective hunting strategies, but will continue to rise in the absence of any hunting.
- Committee members asked Jim and George about the approach hunters are taking and if there was a preference for bucks over does. Jim explained the bow hunting is very difficult and requires a good

line of sight. Jim stated that when the hunters have a good opportunity to take aim they do so , regardless whether the target is a doe or a buck.

- The committee continued the discussion of the identification of property for potential inclusion in the Dover's hunting program in the future.

5. Website - Matthew

- No updates provided.

6. Database/Archive – Tim

- No updates provided

7. DPH Summer Internship - All

- Barbara reported that six (6) suitable properties for the study have been identified and property owners have agreed to participate.
- Tim and Steve have posted signs advertising the study in various locations around town. Responses are being made to the committee email account and Steve volunteered to monitor the account.
- The committee initiated discussion of reviewing the proposed sites for control factors.

8. Adjournment – All

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.