

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

**Meeting Minutes
March 6, 2014
9:00 AM**

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

Absent: Mike Francis, Jay Walsh

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

- Minutes of the February 20, 2014 meeting were reviewed and approved.

2. Sunday Hunting

- Kate reported that currently the budget is virtually the only item being discussed at the State House. Once the budget is finalized and goes to the Senate, other bills will be reviewed. Bill 714 remains in the queue in the House Ways and Means Committee.
- Members have sent out their letters in support of Sunday Hunting. (Neither Kate nor Barbara has heard from Tom Rawinski, Botanist, who is a strong advocate for deer reduction.)
- Barbara referenced a book, Spillover, which contains detailed analysis and information on the world's pandemics. The Dover BOH and the work of the LDC and its deer management program are cited in the book.
- There was a discussion of deer as a dilution host as evidence appears to suggest that it is the mice and other small rodents that are instrumental in spreading lyme disease. A discussion on the decline of the fox and coyote populations along with an increase in numbers for mice ensued. The committee wants to ensure that it always has accurate data on which to base its decisions.
- It appears that promoting Edge Habitat may promote an increase in mice, chipmunks, etc.

3. DPH Intern Project

- It was decided that the fence must be in place for at least three years and it must be 6 feet tall.
- It was decided that as a next step, Steve would compose a letter, with input from the other committee members, to be sent to the home-owners on the list of properties that Steve and Barbara have compiled.
- Professor Sam Tulford of Tufts University has agreed to analyze the data from the ticks collected during the course of the tick study project.

4. Awareness Campaign Planning

- Sam Tulford informed Barbara that TTOR has decided to opt out of aerial spraying for mosquito control.

- Information on preventing disease spread by ticks is targeted to be sent out the week after April vacation.

5. **DMP Planning**

- TTOR is hosting a game dinner at Rocky Woods, Medfield on April 13 from 12:00 noon -3:00 pm with hunters from Medfield and Dover. Jim and George plan to attend.

6. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hayett, Administrative Assistant