

Lyme Disease Committee
of the
Board of Health
Dover, MA

Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2014
9:00 AM

Present: Barbara Roth-Schechter, Jim Palmer, Steve Kruskall, Kate Cannie, Matt Schmid, Karen Hayett

Absent: Tim Holiner, Mike Francis, Jay Walsh, Mary Hable, Phil Trotter, George Giunta

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

Minutes of the December 5, 2013 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Minutes of the December 19, 2013 meeting were amended and approved.

2. Deer Management Plan - Jim

- As of December 31, 2013, a total of 42 deer were culled - 25 does and 17 bucks resulting in a hypothetical reduction of 92 deer assuming each doe to have one set of twins yearly.
- There were 41 deer vehicle collisions reported to the Dover Police Department.
- A discussion ensued on the number of hunters that were more active than others and possible reasons why some were not. Jim reported that for some hunters it may have been the lot assigned, the way the land could be accessed, or their primary work load. Jim relayed that 50 of 60 hunters were active. The consensus was that the program is continuing to work well with the greatest number of deer harvested this year since the beginning of the DMP with the 2010 pilot program.
- According to Jim's information and interaction with Mike Francis, it is unlikely that TTOR will expand hunting areas in Noanet Woods for the 2014 hunting season.

3. Lyme Disease Committee name change – Barbara

- As the name Lyme Disease Committee implies a limited scope, the committee voted to change its name to the Tick Awareness and Action Committee (TAAC) which more accurately aligns with its charge. The name change will be brought to the Board of Health on Monday January 13, 2014 for approval.

4. Bill on Sunday hunting - Kate

- Kate has prepared two letters in support of Sunday hunting since there is currently pending legislation to allow Sunday hunting. One letter is to be sent to the Chair of the responsible committee and signed by the Chair of the Dover Board of Health (paper copy), the other letter is to be emailed to the committee by private supporters of the Bill. The letters will be forwarded by Kate to the LDC members electronically and can then be passed on to groups and/or individuals who can add their own support to this endeavor.

5. DPH Summer Internship - All

- Submission deadline for a summer intern through DPH is January 30.

- The committee is hoping to inspect and have at least 10 usable properties that will be dragged for a tick study. The properties may all be in Dover or some may be in contiguous communities.

6. Update on tick viruses- Barbara

A letter from the Medical Director of the Bureau of Infectious Disease and State Epidemiologist has informed all local Boards of Health that the MA Department of Public Health has placed *Borrelia miyamotoi* on the list of organisms for which the evidence of infection is reportable by laboratories. This information will be officially shared with the Dover Board of Health at its next meeting (Jan. 13, 2014).

7. Adjournment – All

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Hayett, Administrative Assistant