

New Shoreham Deer Task Force
Tuesday, June 29, 2010
Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island
7:30 p.m.

Present: Mary Sue Record, Maggie Komosinski, Pat Doyle, Bill Wilson and Becky Ballard.
Not Present: Chris Blane, Chris Blansfield, Paul Deane, George Mellor
Also present representing the Block Island Times was Judy Tierney. Bonny Ryan Assistant Town Clerk was present to take the minutes.

Meeting was called to order at 7:40 p.m.

1. Public Input

There was no public input. There was a discussion about public participation.

2. Approval of minutes from June 15, 2010

Minutes were approved in a motion by Pat Doyle and seconded by Becky Ballard.

Ayes 5 (Record, Komosinski, Doyle, Wilson and Ballard)

Nays 0

Absent (Blane, Blansfield, Deane and Mellor)

3. Old Business

- Fish/Krause/Duik-Wasser study – Mary Sue reported that the tick collectors had reached their goal of 500 ticks and that they were scheduled to come out to collect again. She also reported that the Medical Center is collecting data and that blood tests for the three tick borne diseases were being included. (Lyme, Babesiosis and Ehrlichiosis). It was mentioned that Dr. David Gifford, Director of the RI Dept. of Health and others from his department would like to come out to meet with the Deer Task Force. The Task Force thought that the meeting should be a combined meeting of the Task Force and the Block Island Medical Center. This item will be on the agenda for future discussion. The meeting will be scheduled for some time in early September.
- Deer Reduction Plan – Status of Conservation lands plan – The Task Force is waiting to hear a counter-proposal from the Conservation groups. There was no update at this time on the status of other groups: RIAC, Boy Scouts, and Fish and Wildlife.

There was a discussion about a letter that Mary Sue drafted on behalf of the Deer Task Force to the Block Island Times correcting some incorrect assumptions in previously printed letters to the editor. After some discussion Mary Sue will send this letter to the paper.

4. New Business

- Reorganization of public information/involvement subcommittee
This subcommittee will meet tomorrow.
- Information from an off-Island hunter – Mary Sue spoke with an unidentified off-island hunter who emphasized the following points.
 - Getting more land was more important than getting more hunters.
 - Safety was the most important issue.
 - Baiting should be allowed
 - Deer Damage permits should be looked at again

This meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. in a motion by Pat Doyle and seconded by Becky Ballard and voted unanimously.

Minutes approved:

Bonny Ryan