

New Shoreham Deer Task Force
Tuesday, September 21, 2010
Town Hall, Old Town Road
7:30 p.m.

Present: Mary Sue Record, Chris Blane, Becky Ballard, Pat Doyle, Bill Wilson, Paul Deane, George Mellor, and Maggie Komosinski. Judy Tierney was present from the Block Island Times, and Bill Latva (a hunter) was also present.

Not Present: Chris Blansfield

1. Public Input – Mr. Latva introduced himself as a hunting safety instructor from New Hampshire. He wanted to stress how important safety is.

2. Approval of minutes, August 31, 2010 – Minutes were approved with changes in a motion by Mary Sue Record and seconded by Becky Ballard.

Ayes 8 (Record, Blane, Ballard, Doyle, Wilson, Deane, Mellor and Komosinski)

Absent 1 (Blansfield)

3. Old Business

- Fish/Krause/Diuk-Wasser study. Mr. Wilson reported that there were funds available to the Yale School of Public Health for Lyme disease reduction via deer targeted interventions. They needed a letter of local support. Kim Gaffett will write one. BIRA has already written one. Mary Sue Record had information from the medical center on the number of Lyme disease cases in 2004, 2005, 2009 and to date. Clerk will scan this document and email to members.
- Deer reduction plan
 - Status of conservation lands plan and other groups
 - BIC, TNC, Boy Scouts, Fish and Wildlife – It was thought that Deer Task Force should have a proposal (removing all the properties that are not appropriate) for hunting lands surrounding BIC lands on Plat 20 Lot 20. It was mentioned that Scott Comings wrote a letter to the Nature Conservancy about hunting on the Boy Scout land. Nancy Dodge will be setting up the meeting with Charlie Vandemoer of Fish and Wildlife
- Hunters and private land
 - Letter to homeowners – this was discussed and a final version will be included in tomorrow night's hunting information night. BIRA will also post the letter on its website and email it to BIRA members.
 - Access to information – Chris Blane will come up with a list of local hunters
- Use of Transfer station for carcass disposal for 2010-2011 hunting season. Pat Doyle will talk to Sean McGarry and get specific hours for disposal. BIRA will allot \$2000 left over from last year to the Deer Task Force.
- Hunter Information Night
 - Discussed was what was needed for Hunters Information Night including: Abstracts, BIRA letter, FAQ for Hunting, Permission Slips, Maps. There was a discussion about approaching big corporations for donation/discount on orange vests.

4. Subcommittee reports

- Report on 9/20 meeting with Dr. Gifford- This meeting was attended by Pat Doyle, Becky Ballard, Bill Wilson and George Mellor. Pat Doyle reported that the meeting went well. She mentioned that Dr. Gifford would like to help and does have statistics. Senator Sosnowski suggested having a referendum for the eradication of deer. No action was taken on this.

5. New Business – Proposal for 2-main hunting teams. This was tabled until next meeting.

At 9:10 a motion to adjourn was made by Pat Doyle and seconded by George Mellor and voted unanimously.

Minutes accepted:

Bonny Ryan