

**Deer Task Force
Tuesday, November 13, 2012
Town Hall, Old Town Road
5:00 p.m.**

Present: Ruth Perfido, Mary Sue Record, Becky Ballard, George Mellor, Sara McGinnes, Chris Blane arrived late.

Not Present: Paul Deane

Also present: Judy Tierney from BI Times and clerk Bonny Ryan to take the minutes.

Meeting was called to order by Mary Sue Record at 5:00 p.m.

1. Public Input-none

2. Approval of minutes from Sept. 18, 2012 and Oct. 16, 2012

Minutes of Sept.18, 2012 were approved with changes in a motion by Becky Ballard and seconded by George Mellor.

Ayes 5 (Perfido, Record, Ballard, Mellor, McGinnes) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Deane , Blane)

Minutes of Oct. 16, 2012 were approved with changes in a motion by Mary Sue Record and seconded by Becky Ballard.

Ayes 5 (Perfido, Record, Ballard, Mellor, McGinnes) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Deane , Blane)

3. Ongoing Business

- Mention was made that the visit by Catherine Doyle-Capitman was postponed.
- Developing a Community Based Plan to Eliminate or Drastically Reduce the BI Deer Herd.

- Independent Hunts

Information from DEM re: Rodman's Hollow hunt was tabled for Paul Deane's presence. Ruth Perfido will contact Paul Deane to find out what he knows about the plan. There was a discussion about holding a public meeting on Block Island with DEM.

A motion was made by Mary Sue Record and seconded by Sara McGinnes to have Ruth Perfido work with Paul Deane to establish DEM's plan for the managed hunt and invite DEM to hold an orientation on Block Island.

Ayes 5 (Perfido, Record, Ballard, Mellor, McGinnes) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Deane , Blane)

US Fish and Wildlife – Mary Sue Record has been in touch with Juancarlos Geise who has said that there will be hunting on Beane Pt. and at the North Light this winter.

- Managed hunts

DEM – Mary Sue Record will wait to talk to them to coordinate it with the Rodman's Hollow Hunt.

White Buffalo – George Mellor reported on a conversation with Anthony J. DeNicola of White Buffalo. He said he could provide sharpshooter training and managed hunts. George will continue talking to him.

USDA Wildlife Services- Nancy Dodge reported to the group that a managed hunt was in progress at the airport by USDA. Mention was made that DEM can give dispensation for certain hunts.

- Website –There was a discussion about the Town website versus the Task Force having their own website. Sara McGinnes mentioned the Fairfield website which she thought was very good. She will contact Fairfield about the website.
- Check stations proposal for Town Council – Chris –this was tabled until Chris’s arrival.
- Fundraising – Transfer station costs – BIRA. It was reported that BIRA would fund \$1,000 for this hunting season only. Becky Ballard will write a thank you note.
- Seek increase in percentage of deer tag fees returned to the Town –

A motion was made by Sara McGinnes and seconded by Mary Sue Record to add to the legislative goal section under Item 3B of the Community Based Plan to seek increase in percentage of deer tags returned to the Town.

Ayes 5 (Perfido, Record, Ballard, Mellor, McGinnes) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Deane , Blane)

- Statistics
 - Medical Center – It was noted that we do not have the 2011/2012 statistics for Lyme disease.
 - Deer Take 2011-2012 – These were not complete statistics due to no check stations.
- Town Council decision about Proposed Amendment to New Shoreham’s Revised Ordinances Chapter 10 Section 16 Hunting, take of game or discharge of firearms. This was defeated.

Chris Blane arrived at 6:00 p.m.

- Check station proposal for Town Council – Chris Blane will prepare a proposal for the next meeting that will be a request to the Town Council to run a check station on Block Island and have a game warden and would include proposing a fine.
- Updates:
 - Yale – George Mellor spoke to Peter Krause about serologic data which Peter will send but George is not supposed to share. George will look into aerial contacts, drones etc. for deer counts.
 - Conservation – no news

4. New Business

- Review draft of 2012 report to Town Council – members will email their comments and changes to Mary Sue Record.
- Mention was made of the Open Meetings Session December 6, 4-6 p.m. at Town Hall

5. Next meeting: It was decided that it was more convenient to have meeting on the second Monday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Next meeting will be December 10, 2012 at 5:00 p.m.

At 7:00 a motion was made by Mary Sue Record and seconded by Becky Ballard to adjourn and voted unanimously.

Minutes accepted:

Bonny Ryan
Assistant Town Clerk