

Deer Task Force
Monday, February 11, 2013
Town Hall, Old Town Road
6:30 p.m.

Present: Sara McGinnes, Betsey Theve, Becky Ballard, Bill McKernan, Paul Deane, George Mellor. Also present, Judy Tierney, Block Island Times, and clerk Bonny Ryan to take the minutes.

Not Present: Lisa Sprague, Ruth Perfido

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. New members McKernan and Theve were welcomed.

Public Input – none at this time.

Approval of minutes from January 14, 2013.

Minutes were approved as written in a motion by Paul Deane and seconded by George Mellor.

Ayes 6 (McGinnes, Theve, Ballard, McKernan, Deane, Mellor) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Perfido, Sprague)

Ongoing Business

- Selection of liaisons for public officials and government agencies. – This was tabled until the next meeting.*
- Status report on Plan to Eliminate or Drastically Reduce the BI Deer Herd – Discussed were the Skidaway Plan and Tim Cozine's memo (attached) from USDA.

A motion was made by Sara McGinnes and seconded by Paul Deane to support and attend a meeting with the DEM, USDA and one or more members of the New Shoreham Town Council for the purpose of asking DEM for exemptions from the State Hunting Regulations for extirpation (extermination) of the Block Island deer herd.

Ayes 6 (McGinnes, Theve, Ballard, McKernan, Deane, Mellor) Nays 0 Absent 2 (Perfido, Sprague)

- 2013 Managed Hunts-Paul Deane reported on this. We will get numbers from DEM at the end of the season.
- Website – Ms McGinnes reported that she has been in contact with Fairfield County CT. alliance. *This item will be on the next agenda.
- Status of check station and game warden proposals – Becky Ballard reported that none of the 7 towns she called had a check station or a game warden.
- Fundraising Discussion – Funding for an aerial count for next winter was discussed. Ms. Ballard will call Kim Gaffett, First Warden and see if this could happen.
- Statistics – George Mellor will continue to do this.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. in a motion by Betsey Theve and seconded by Bill McKernan and voted unanimously.

*denotes items for next agenda

Minutes approved

Bonny Ryan