

New Shoreham Deer Task Force  
July 14, 2014  
Town Hall, Old Town Road, Block Island  
7:30 p.m.

Present: Ruth Perfido, Bill McKernan, Becky Ballard, Heather Hatfield, Lisa Sprague, George Mellor. Also present Councilor Gary Ryan, First Warden Kim Gaffett, Barbara Baldwin, Lily O’Gara from the Block Island Times, Leonard Perfido and guest, Chris Blansfield. Bonny Ryan was present to take the minutes.

Not Present : Paul Deane

Public Input – none

Approval of minutes from May 27, June 9, and June 23, 2014 meeting.

Minutes were approved from May 27 and June 9 in a motion by Bill McKernan and seconded by Lisa Sprague.

Ayes: 6(Perfido, McKernan, Ballard, Hatfield, Sprague, Mellor) Nays 0 Absent 1(Deane)

Minutes from June 23, 2014 were tabled until next month’s meeting.

New Business:

- Discussion re: New RI law (section 20-1-18 of the General Laws, Legislative Session 2014-S2953). This is the Collector’s permit legislation. It was read by Bill McKernan. The discussion focused on whether to involve DEM in a local cull program under the collector’s permit legislation or have the Town manage the cull.

Ongoing Business:

- 2014-2015 hunt season – (a) discussion re: possible incentive program for qualified BI resident hunters, (b) discussion and action re: postponement of a professional cull, (c) discussion re: liability and insurances and (d) discussion re: reintroduction of check station. Ruth Perfido presented the following:  
Draft of Deer Task Recommendation to Town Council for Deer Tail Acquisition Pilot Program
  1. This would be a one year pilot program. At the end of the 2014-2015 hunting season it will be reviewed and assessed by Town Council, the Deer Task Force, the hunters and the community.
  2. The program will run for the entire hunting season.
  3. The program will be limited to Block Island resident hunters.
  4. A hunter will hunt individual properties per written permissions that the hunter has obtained from a landowner.
  5. Fundraising will be a group effort. The Deer Task Force will raise funds along with the hunters and possibly BIRA.
  6. Hunters will be paid \$150 per deer tail. This amount will include all out of pocket costs of the hunters. The Town will keep the records and will pay the hunters of an agreed schedule from a restricted account.
  7. There will be a check station, details, including payment of an attendant, to be worked out and agreed to.

After discussion it was agreed to add:

8. The Deer Task Force, Town Council has the right to discontinue the program at any time.

Lisa Sprague suggested that the program be visited monthly to monitor the cull.

Hunting under the Collector's permit is being table for the time being to try to keep DEM out of the cull.

Discussion about postponing a professional cull for 2014-2015 season will be discussed at the August meeting.

Reintroduction of a check station will be worked on by Chris Blansfield and Paul Deane and after discussing the involvement of the Finance Office, Bill McKernan will work on this also.

Next meeting August 12, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

At 9:00 p.m. a motion to adjourn was made by George Mellor and seconded by Bill McKernan to adjourn and voted unanimously.

Minutes accepted: 8/12/2014

Bonny Ryan