

DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Telephone (203) 563-0180

Fax (203) 563-0284



TOWN HALL

238 Danbury Road

Wilton, Connecticut 06897

Deer Management Committee

August 30, 2011

Minutes

In attendance: Kim Young, vice chairman; Scott MacQuarrie, Mike Russnok, Steve White, Frank Mabley

Also in attendance: Patricia Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs; Judy Mabley

I. Call to Order

Kim Young called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

Kim Young made a motion to approve the minutes of July 12, 2011, seconded by Scott MacQuarrie, and carried 4-0-1, with Frank Mabley abstaining.

III. Ongoing Business

A. 2011 Deer Management Plan Review

Patricia Sesto introduced the report summarizing the 2010 hunt and the proposed 2011 hunt plan. Sesto explained the hierarchy of approval, noting the Conservation will review the plan next week, and assuming they approve the document, it will be referred to the Board of Selectmen. Young made a motion to accept the plan as drafted, Seconded by Steve White, and carried 5-0-0.

B. Commissioner Assignments and Responsibilities

There are numerous tasks to carry out in order to implement the 2011 hunt plan. Sesto confirmed the receipt of emails indicating MacQuarrie's interest in running the controlled hunt and White's desire to head up the neighbor/hunter match program. Sesto reviewed the associated tasks previously sent to the members. Frank Mabley expressed interest in helping with the controlled hunts, Mike Russnok will assist with tasks doable in the evening or on weekends and he will coordinate the registration and vetting of hunters with Officer Tim Fridinger. Young will take on publicity.

Members set a goal date of September 30th to have the hunters registered and ready for dispersal.

All hunters, even returning participants will need to undergo the background check and proficiency test. There needs to be a high level of confidence in the hunters when their names are distributed to residents. The proficiency test will only be for bow and arrow; there is no practical means to administer a firearms proficiency test and hunters had to pass such a test through the state prior to getting their license.

The three properties that will be part of the controlled hunt will each have a lead hunter to coordinate field activities. They will in turn report to MacQuarrie and Mabley. MacQuarrie will work to select the captains with the assistance of Sesto. Discussion ensued regarding the benefits and detractions from having a selected team for each property rather than randomly assigning hunters. The committee conceded the benefits of having team member known to each other outweighed the downside. Captains will be advised to keep all team members in the loop regarding property management.

IV. New Business

There was no new business to cover.

V. Next Meeting Schedule/Attendance

Due to scheduling conflicts, the next regular meeting will be postponed to September 20th. It should be expected that Mabley will not be in attendance.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.