

The Shelter Island Deer & Tick Committee

Meeting Minutes 10/9/08

Present: Chairman Rae Lapidés, Janalyn Travis Messer, Dr. Scott Campbell, Dr. Bill Zitek, Supervisor James Dougherty, Police Chief James J. Read, LI Federation of Women's Club Corresponding Secretary Gertrude Hounsell, clerk Nancy Byrne and reporter Jake Williams.

The meeting was called to order at 10:35am.

New Business:

LI Federation of Women's Club Corresponding Secretary Gertrude Hounsell came to speak to the committee regarding a resolution that was made supporting the increase of funding for approval of a vaccine against Lyme Disease. She said that Assemblyman Mark Alessi and Governor David Patterson have both responded that they are taking it to the proper people to try to get it approved. Mrs. Hounsell will update the committee when she hears anything.

Chairman Lapidés spoke about her conversation with the Purina Mills folks regarding Corn for the 4-Poster program. Purina Mills is now owned by Land-O-Lakes. Chairman Lapidés also learned of a new product they have manufactured called "Antler Max" which is a pellet that holds its integrity when wet. The New York rep was going to bring this to the national meeting this week and will contact Chairman Lapidés when she knows more. The committee wasn't sure if a pellet could be used in place of whole kernel corn. Chairman Lapidés will speak to Cornell regarding replacement of the corn as an alternative. It seemed like they were highly interested in doing a community involvement project such as this one. Chief Read will e-mail Chairman Lapidés the figure for corn needed as per his 2 formulas.

A discussion regarding the "Barnstable Study" occurred and Chairman Lapidés brought up the October 2006 article Dr. Zitek had written in the *Reporter* regarding some of the shortcomings of the study. He wrote about two factors contributing to the downfall of the study: the devices were not out for the proper amount of time and that they were not serviced on a weekly basis. The committee feels that they should write a letter to them so that we have proof in writing that their study has been conducted a little differently than ours has been and they we have used their short-comings as a lesson learned to conduct our study. Nancy Byrne will draft the letter for the committee to review. The Town Board will be updated when the committee receives information in return.

Dr. Scott Campbell will forward the committee the study regarding pathogens and ticks for their review.

Supervisor Dougherty was pleased with the budget presentation Janalyn made to the Board on Tuesday. The Board will vote on the budget in early November.

Supervisor Dougherty also told the committee that the Town will conduct it's own sample testing from the same deer that Cornell will use. Hopefully, the tests will be conducted within a few weeks.

Chief Read told the committee that the Town's Deer Management Program had begun on October 1st and that it has gotten off to a very slow start so far.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, November 13th at 10:00 am. Janalyn Travis Messer will not be able to attend.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12am.