

Shelter Island Deer & Tick Committee

Meeting Minutes 4/15/09

Meeting called to order at 10:10 am.

Attendance:

Committee: Chairman Rae Lapides, Janalyn Travis-Messer, Pat Shillingburg, Dr. Scott Campbell, Dr. William Zitek and Nancy Byrne.

Non-Committee: Supervisor James Dougherty, Chief James Read, Dan Gilrein, Susan Walker, Jen Stress, Jake Williams, Bill Smith, and Richard Kelly

Old Business:

- Report from Cornell on 4-poster units, deployment and etc.
 - All 4-Poster units are place with the exception of two. One will be placed this week and the other one will be placed next week.
 - Tick sampling will start in June and the results should be out in early July.
 - GPS vs. VHF collars: GPS work like handheld devices and the VHF collars require physically looking for the deer.
 - According to Susan Walker, 134 deer have been tagged this year. 95 of them are on Shelter Island and 39 in North Haven.
 - Some of the GPS units had malfunctioned, but they have all been fixed.
 - Camera surveys of the 4-poster units have begun.
 - The Department of Health and the Dec will conduct sampling.
 - We are at the level we wanted to be at with the deer tagging.
 - 1 Collared deer and 2 tagged deer died this year, one of which was found in Southold as road kill.

- Report from the Shelter Island Deer and Tick Foundation as to the grant to the town for the corn and ferry tickets for Vector Control.
 - \$25,000 will be given to the Town to cover some of the corn and ferry tickets for Vector Control.
 - \$100,000 will be given to Cornell for the study costs.

New Business:

- Report on Permethrin residue was handed out.
 - The DEC and DOH will tell us if they think that we will need to conduct more testing this year.
 - Mr. Smith and Mr. Kelly had numerous questions regarding sampling and the results from the testing of the samples.
 - Chairman Lapedes discussed the issue of a controlled study being too expensive for the town to conduct.
 - A total of 16 deer were sampled on Shelter Island this year.
 - Dr. Matt Pound will try to come out to the Island this summer.
 - This year the samples shall be gathered in December and not February.
 - Mr. Smith raised the question about why the samples were not split this year.
 - There was no issue with Cornell Labs from Dr. Pound, the DEC, Dr. Vincent Palmer or Dr. Zitek.
 - They will be split in the future, if possible due to lack of available funding and need to conduct more sampling.
 - Chairman Lapedes would like a report from Ward Stone, from the DEC, regarding information Mr. Smith quoted.
 - Dr. Zitek remarked that there are numerous studies out but not on deer, we are doing something different.
 - Mr. Smith, Mr. Kelly and Dr. Zitek discussed Permethrin levels and lab concerns.

Meeting adjourned at 11:01 am.

