

Shelter Island Deer & Tick Committee

Meeting Minutes 5/13/09

Meeting called to order at 10:11 am.

Attendance:

Committee: Chairman Rae Lapedes, Janalyn Travis-Messer, Scott Campbell, Steve Lenox and Nancy Byrne.

Non-Committee: Supervisor James Dougherty, Chief James Read, Susan Walker, Jake Williams, Bill Smith, Frank Vecchio and Richard Kelly

Old Business:

- Report from Cornell on 4-poster units, deployment and etc.
 - Susan Walker gave the report for both herself and Dan Gilrein, who was unable to attend the meeting due to a prior commitment.
 - Susan handed out a summary of the study and its progress. Hopefully, a more in-depth summary will be placed on the Town's website by next week.
 - Tick drags will hopefully begin next month and will continue through August.
 - Susan will have a student intern that will start next Monday and work until mid-August. The intern will be housed at Mashomack with their interns.

New Business:

- 2009 Flyover data was handed out and discussed.
 - The Town does not know why the flyover was conducted in mid-February instead of mid-March.
 - Bill Smith commented that the numbers are inaccurate due to the fact that the deer don't migrate back until at least March.
 - The results from the flyover look extremely low.
 - A discussion was had on deer and the numbers of them that swim to/from the island. Richard Kelly suggested that the collars might inhibit their ability to swim, but Susan Walker commented that the collars would not affect them enough to prohibit movement.
- Miscellaneous information
 - There will be a yard sale at Janalyn's house, 22 Baldwin Rd, on Sunday 5/24/09 between the hours of 8:00am and 2:00pm. All proceeds will go to benefit the study.
 - Bill Smith raised a question regarding ticks becoming resistant to Permethrin at the 1% level. Scott Campbell said he has never known that to be true and that he has never seen resistance studies done. Rae Lapedes suggested to Bill Smith that Dr. Pound was a resource regarding findings of the presence of absence of Permethrin resistance in ticks from other 4-poster studies.

- A discussion was had regarding the contact of animals with the Permethrin and the possibility that those animals would be distributing the tickicide to others. Susan Walker said that the only animal who actually makes contact with the rollers on the 4-Poster devices are raccoons. Birds, squirrels and etc just go into the corn trough and don't touch the rollers.
- Bill Smith questioned why it seems that Cornell is "hiding" information. Susan Walker said that she can't speak for Dan Gilrein and that Cornell has it's policies in place as to what information can be shared and at which time it will be released. It is not Dan's choice to tell or withhold information.
- Supervisor Dougherty said that the Town was sharing information when they received it and the data was placed in usable formats. Raw data is not useful without a summary to tie everything together.
- In two weeks there will be a presentation made to the Town Board to go over the flyover material.

Meeting adjourned at 10:51 am.