

Westport, CT Deer Management Committee Meeting
Thursday Nov 15, 2012, 7:30PM, Rm 309, Westport Town Hall

Commenced: 7:32PM, Adjourned: 9:13 PM

The following members were in attendance: Michele Lamothe, Susan Pike, Ben Deipolyi, Alan Eugley & Linda McCracken; Absent: Peter Knight & Domenico Antonelli

Minutes:

1. 11.8.12 minutes were reviewed and approved.
2. Susan distributed the VisionAir proposal to be submitted to the Board of Finance in advance of the meeting on 12.5.12 in which the First Selectman will request funding for a deer count.
3. Susan had compiled all of the paragraphs that had been submitted by subcommittee members on their topics of focus into an interim draft. This interim draft, prepared for the First Selectman and Board of Finance, was reviewed in detail:
 - Preface: The committee, as a group, edited the preface which included a mission statement for the committee based on the RTM guidelines regarding creation of a Deer Management Committee and the goals and purpose of the interim report.
 - Alan had suggested a summary page to be included. All members in attendance agreed that the summary was useful. It was edited by the committee as a group and agreed upon by all members in attendance.
 - Linda took dictation of the agreed upon Preface and Summary on her laptop during the meeting to be distributed to all members for final review before the November 21 deadline for submission to the First Selectman and Board of Finance.
 - For the body of the report, Michele suggested a reorganization of the individual paragraphs grouped into topics. The committee reviewed the proposed organization and made suggestions for final organization of the report. A final outline for organization of draft topics was prepared during the meeting.
 - Committee members in attendance agreed that they were fairly comfortable with content of the majority of the body of the draft report
 - Several members of the committee expressed concern regarding the wording of the recommendations for a culling and sharpshooting program and overturning of the Westport "No-hunting" ordinance. Members felt that they wanted readers of the report to understand that the vast majority of the committee did not agree with the recommendations. Members in attendance agreed to reword the paragraph to reflect the majority's opinions without disregard for the minority opinion.
 - All members agreed to omit a recommendation for a survey until the committee concluded full discussion of the matter (as had been already decided at the previous meeting).
 - Susan agreed to reorganize the paragraphs in the body of the report according to the proposed outline. She would also incorporate all other changes agreed upon at the meeting and submit the final report to the First Selectman's office prior to the Nov 21st deadline.
4. The next full committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for Wednesday November 28th, 7:30 PM, Room TBA, depending on availability of members.

Michele Lamothe
Secretary
11/28/12