

Minutes

Attached agenda.

1st meeting of the (5) members, Mary Holman, Leila Bisharat, Cecil Doughty, Anita Anderson, and Steve Harris. The agenda is attached. The discussion, proposals, and actions follow.

Discussion

The introduction of the members included ideas and reasons for joining the committee. Cecil felt we should do any deer culling on our own. We should get involved with Inland Fish and Wildlife. Do not use off island people.

Leila stated that although her knowledge of TBD was limited but that she had a background with other health issues. She stated that TBD prevention was very complex.

Anita noted that black-legged tick diseases were numerous* and that not all had cures and at least one could be fatal. She also noted that the incidences of TBD's had been rising steadily state wide and particularly in this area of Maine. She gave us more details from Maine CDC about the numerous diseases.

Mary stated the need for documentation on the island for Lyme disease (or other TBD's), vegetation damage by deer, herd health such as herd population, twins or triplets, and deer related auto accidents. Also counting stat and flagging for tics, and using recognized scientific methods and criteria for documentation.

Steve felt the need for anti TBD action was due and that it would take a community wide awareness and involvement. He stated that it might take involvement with mainland and nearby islands to control the herd because the herd swims between islands and is mobile. We should concentrate on prevention.

Education discussion included planning an expert panel presentation. Mary is working on October 3rd with Susan Elias, Charles Lubelczyk, and Scott Lindsay. A meeting of the ad hoc committee is for 9/26/17 at 5:30 to prepare for the 10/3 presentation. It was proposed that perhaps flagging could be done concurrently with Oct 3rd presentation.

Actions

Gather island data. A questionnaire could be designed for residents and guests from away could inform us on who and when people (or pets) have gotten TBD's. These questionnaires could be placed on the ferry, the store bulletin board and on Bev's web page. Mary said her phone # and email could be used and she would record the data.

Contact Island Health Officers. Anita said she would contact local health officers to get regional histories of TBD's, herd reductions, and other relevant observations and data from the Casco Bay islands. Leila agreed to contact the other islands such as Vinalhaven, North Haven, Islesboro, Monhegan, and Swans.

Open discussions with relevant government agencies and other agencies re: TBD reduction. Leila said she would start this process.

Contact island hunters, both gun and bow users, and apprise them of this committee's intent and activities and enlist their help. Cecil volunteered to do this.

The Discussion and Actions also included acquiring specifics of Zone 29 hunting regs, island size, hunting season, and bow hunting regulations. Some bow hunters in the island are the Riddles, Cecil, Chip Corson, Dustin Vining and more.

Could we keep the community informed on TBD updates? Interactive web site is discussed. Dedicated TBD update places on the ferry and store bulletin boards or other places would be good.

Bow season started 9/9/2017.

Link to TBD on Islesboro, The Problems, the Causes, the Solutions

The next meeting will be 9/26/2017 at 5:30. The location is 4 Oak Lane, which is the Howard Cottage off of the South Road, the first driveway on the left after you pass the Acorn Cottage going up hill (south).

Committee Chair is chosen by vote- Mary Holman. Future change of chairperson is discussed as a desirable possibility in case Mary becomes too busy. There is general agreement.

Committee Secretary is chosen as well- Steve Harris

**Borrelia burgdorferi*, Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, *Borrelia miyamotoi*, Ehrlichiosis, Powassan virus

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