

DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
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TOWN HALL  
238 Danbury Road  
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

**Deer Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes  
March 28, 2017**

RECEIVED FOR RECORD  
TOWN OF WILTON  
2017 MAR 29 A 8:54  
BY:  
*R. Russnok*

**Committee members in attendance:** Mike Russnok, Chairman, Loretta Foley, Scott MacQuarrie, Ben Couch

**Staff in attendance:** Mike Conklin, Director of Environmental Affairs

- I. Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:40pm.
- II. Foley motioned to approve the draft minutes of December 13, 2016, Seconded by Couch, all in favor 4-0-0.
- III. Foley explained she did not receive any response from the homeowner survey.

Russnok reviewed the homeowner match hunter surveys. Foley suggested adding the hunted property name to the homeowner match questionnaire. MacQuarrie recommended the committee work to improve communication between the hunter and the homeowners in the match program. Couch volunteered to act as a homeowner match liaison and contact the homeowners in October to solicit feedback during the hunt.

Russnok reviewed the 2016 controlled hunt survey summary. He noted 117 deer were harvested in 2016 which is consistent with the 122 total deer harvested in 2015. A discussion ensued about the deer harvest numbers of previous years.

MacQuarrie suggested staff speak with the First Selectman as well as Toni Boucher and Gail Lavielle to explain the Deer Committee is in support of expanding the Sunday hunting program in Connecticut.

Russnok continued to review the controlled hunt survey summary property by property. He noted at this year's kick off meeting he will reinforce the importance of hunters only hunting in their assigned spot and no drifting the location of the stand on the property. Russnok explained an idea of using the hunters for trail maintenance in the parks which they hunt as a way to give back to the community. Conklin commented he will work with the Land Trust to provide volunteer opportunities for the hunters.

- IV. Foley motioned to nominate Russnok for Committee Chairman, Seconded by Couch, all in favor 4-0-0.

Foley motioned to nominate MacQuarrie for Committee Vice Chairman, Seconded by Couch, all in favor 4-0-0.

- V. A discussion ensued about the 2017 meeting schedule. Foley motioned to approve the 2017 meeting schedule with amendments as discussed, Seconded by Couch, all in favor 4-0-0.

- VI. Couch motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:28pm, Seconded by MacQuarrie, all in favor 4-0-0.