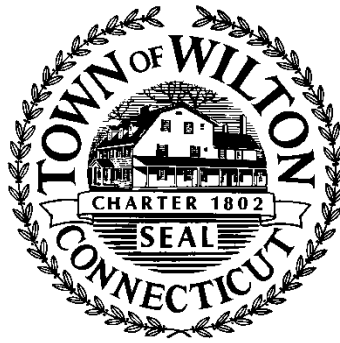


DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
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TOWN HALL  
238 Danbury Road  
Wilton, Connecticut 06897

**Deer Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
August 13, 2013**

In attendance: Mike Russnok, Chairman, Steve White, Kevin Clark, Loretta Foley, Donna Merrill, Frank Mabley

Also in attendance: Patricia Sesto, Director of Environmental Affairs and Matt Ellenthal

- I. Chairman Russnok called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
- II. Russnok made a motion to approve the minutes of July 10, 2013, as drafted, Seconded by Kevin Clark and carried unanimously.

III. Land Owner Match

Russnok reported on the landowner match program. There are a few hunters from New Hampshire that are interested in participating. Russnok expressed his reservations of taking on participants from so far away, but the hunters have acknowledged the distance issue and provided assurances, stating Wilton will be an improvement, distance wise, over their site in New Jersey. The hunters proved their commitment when they drove down for the ten minute proficiency test.

IV. Controlled Hunt

Russnok reviewed the properties scheduled for hunting. Patricia Sesto indicated the recreation permit from the State Health Department for the SNEW lands has expired. She prepared the application on behalf of SNEW, however, SNEW must submit it. This should be done within the next couple of days.

Steve White conveyed reservations by WLT president, Bruce Beebe. Beebe is concerned with the length of time the committee is requesting the properties be closed. Regardless, he will send out an email to the directors for approval. Beebe asked White for information on Redding's procedures for recent park closure. Sesto committed to look into this, but cautioned the comparison may not be appropriate. Redding is part of a study, with prescribed methodologies and education campaign that may influence

resident tolerance. White concluded by stating there have been no complaints about closures previously and he hopes this fact is taken into account by Beebe and the other board members.

Members reviewed elements of the hunting schedule. Town and WLT properties will be hunted up to 12/23, except Wrens Thicket and Slaughter Fields, which will go until 1/31. The hunters working the Town and WLT sites will be polled in mid December to gauge interest in hunting into the new year. Final decisions will be made at that time. SNEW lands will be hunted until 1/31. No properties will be hunted over Thanksgiving weekend or the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of December.

The controller hunt orientation meeting will be held August 28, 2013 and Howard Kilpatrick of the DEEP will present information regarding baiting, cameras, and property disturbances.

#### V. Marketing

Enticing homeowner participation is paramount to the success of that program. Donna Merrill distributed a flyer to be posted and agreed to make minor changes as suggested. Kevin Clark will post the call for homeowners on Wilton's "411" site. Mabley inquired about indemnification and suggested this be included on the flyer. After further discussion it was the consensus of the group to keep the flyer as is. Information on indemnification is included on the landowner guide that is freely distributed to homeowners.

Loretta Foley committed to calling landowners from last year to ask about their needs for a hunter assignment this year.

Sesto will write up a recap of last year's hunt and include a solicitation for more property owners this year.

#### VI. Russnok made a Motion to Adjourn at 7:40, Seconded by Mabley, and carried.