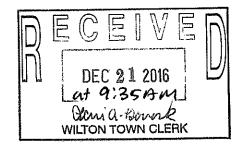
DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE Telephone (203) 563-0180 Fax (203) 563-0284



TOWN HALL 238 Danbury Road Wilton, Connecticut 06897



Deer Committee Meeting Minutes December 13, 2016

In attendance: Mike Russnok, Chairman, Ben Couch, Steve White and Scott MacQuarrie.

- I. Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II. Mike made a Motion to approve the minutes from October 11, 2016 which was seconded by Steve White and passed 3-0-1. Ben Couch abstained as he was not present at the meeting on October 11th.
- III. The Committee then discussed the status of the 2016 hunt. Mike noted the most recent statistics published by the state show that there were 78 deer harvested through the end of November. 65 were harvested via archery and 13 via rifle. Mike noted that we should expect numbers to be down vs. last year which is consistent with the trends across the state. The Committee noted that there were no action plans to be addressed at this time and will wait for the surveys at the end of the year to consider which properties should continue to be hunted or rotated with others to increase the harvest. Mike noted that the lower numbers were not believed to be indicative of the hunters effort and that the hunters are putting in the time but just not able to harvest deer.

Mike provided draft copies of the surveys that will be distributed to the hunters after the season which will help provide more precise data on which properties and there were no suggested changes.

Steve provided an update on the Homeowner Match and noted that there were only a few properties assigned and Loretta Foley was managing as they came in. Ben inquired about the cost / benefit of the Homeowner Match program and a discussion ensued about the historical efforts of this program which will be continued as next years hunt is planned.

- IV. The 2017 Committee Elections were deferred until January's meeting. We agreed to continue to meet the second Tuesday of the month and revisit, in advance, which months a meeting would be necessary at the next meeting.
- V. With no further business, the committee adjourned at 7:00 p.m.