

TOWN OF ISLESBORO

ISLESBORO HEALTH CENTER  
TICK-BORNE DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE (T-BDPC)

MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2016 - TOWN OFFICE, 4 PM

Present: Linda Gillies, Douglas Welldon (chair in Derreth Roberts's absence), Alison Wood, PA-C

Absent: Derreth Roberts

Also attending: Sandy Oliver

Doug Welldon called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

Approval of draft minutes for the meeting of February 17, 2016. Upon MOTION made and seconded, the minutes were approved as written.

Board of Selectmen meeting of February 24, 2016. Linda, who attended the meeting, reported that the Selectmen discussed the February 10, 2016 Special Town Meeting, at which the article proposing Islesboro's participation in the Maine State Firearms seasons of 2016, 2017, and 2018 was rejected by a vote of 81-41. The Selectmen agreed that this result was "definitive," and that for the "foreseeable future," Islesboro would take no special measures to reduce the deer herd. The work of the Deer Reduction Committee should be suspended, and the Town should concentrate on tick-borne disease prevention through the work of the T-bDPC.

Implementation of the new T-bDPC plan. Several aspects of the plan were discussed:

- **Printed material.** There should be both information sheets ("cheat sheets") intended for household fridges/bulletin boards and a pocket-size brochure. The T-bDPC will prepare the texts. The themes should include: "Protect Yourself," "Protect your Children," "Protect Your Animals," "Protect Your Property," "Think You've Been Bitten? - Getting Medical Help." The design should be engaging, using drawings and/or photographs. To emphasize the evil tick, Sandy Oliver suggested that ticks should be crawling all over them. The layout and design should be done by a professional, perhaps Elm Street Printing. Doug Welldon will talk with Kim Palermo. To be ready by the April 23rd Health Fair (see below).
  - Information sheets . Two separate pages, one entitled *Personal Precautions*, a second entitled, *Protect your Property*. 8 ½ x 11, some color. Drawings could include shoes/socks with pants tucked in, a child, a dog, a deer, some bushes, something relating to the IHC. The committee made changes to a draft of the text circulated by Linda Gillies.
  - Brochure. Similar in size and format to the Nantucket Cottage Hospital's brochure. Information about personal and animal protection, medical help only, not about property care.
- **Website.** To be much more comprehensive than the cheat sheets or the brochure. Text to be supplied by the T-bDPC. Linda circulated a draft outline that included sections on tick-borne disease, its causes, medical treatment, and prevention measures. She said that much of the information will be taken from the 2011 report to the Selectmen. Professional help will be needed to set up the site and to train someone on Islesboro to maintain it; Tina Pendleton might be a possibility. Page Clason has suggested WordPress sites. Doug recommended Elm Street Printing and said that he would discuss the website with Peter Palermo. Allie suggested that a younger person should be involved. To be up and running asap, within the next several months.

- **Video to be prepared by ICS students.** Linda reported that Heather Knight had a positive response to this idea. She will follow up with Heather.
- **Health Fair.** The T-bDPC should have a station at the Health Fair, to be held at the Kinnicutt Center on Saturday, April 23. In addition to the T-bDPC's printed materials, there could be demonstrations of how to make a tick-tube.
- **Sex life of the tick.** Sandy said that many Islesboro residents have an incorrect understanding of the tick life cycle. Believing that white mice are responsible for the spread of tick-borne disease, they have no knowledge of the key role that deer play in the tick reproductive process. She said that there should be some kind of funny visual, possibly a cartoon, showing that for ticks a deer is a "five-star hotel with comfortable beds and excellent food." A possibility for the Health Fair. Allie said that she would discuss the cartoon idea with her daughter, Hannah.
- **Facebook page.** To be investigated. Committee members will attend the Facebook class recommended by Page Clason. Sponsored by the Island Institute, it will be held on the island by the Axiom Education & Training Center on March 16th.
- **Adult Education.** Adult Ed could include the dissemination of tick-related information at a future time.
- **Islesboro Island News.** The May/June issue should include a "blast" about what the T-bDPC has done (new printed materials, booth at Health Fair) and what future plans are.
- **Budget.** The T-bDPC will need a budget in order to carry out the initiatives described above. Doug suggested that part of the unspent DRC budget could be used. Linda said that the DRC wanted to hold onto those funds for a possible deer count and suggested that the T-bDPC have its own budget line within the Health Center budget. Linda added that \$4,000 for the annual tick surveys taken by the Vector-borne Disease Prevention Laboratory, which have been paid from the DRC budget, should be included in either the T-bDPC or DRC budgets. It was thought that the costs for printing and web design would be no more than \$10,000. More will be known after Doug meets with Elm Street in the week of March 14th.

Next T-bDPC Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, March 24 at 4 pm in the Town office.

After motion made, seconded, and approved, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gillies, Secretary

Follow-up:

- Doug to meet with Elm Street Printing about the design and printing of the information sheets and the brochure, and the design of the website. He should secure cost estimates.
- Linda to draft "cheat sheets" for review by the committee.
- Linda to follow up with Heather about the student video.
- Linda to alert Health Fair organizers about T-bDPC booth.

- Allie to talk with Hannah about tick cartoon.
- Committee members to attend March 16th Axiom session about Facebook.
- Linda to draft article for May/June IIN about T-bDPC activities for committee approval and submission to Maggy.
- Doug and Linda to draft 2016/17 T-bDPC budget for committee approval and submission to Town.

C: Janet Anderson, Sandy Oliver, Cindy Gorham, Tina Pendleton, Owen Howell, Dorie Henning, Rhonda Shand, Peggy Pike, Maggy Willcox

Approved 3/24/16