

TOWN OF ISLESBORO
 ISLESBORO HEALTH CENTER
 TICK-BORNE DISEASE PREVENTION COMMITTEE (T-BDPC)
 MEETING OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2015 - TOWN OFFICE, 4:00 PM

Present: Linda Gillies, Derreth Roberts (chair), Douglas Welldon, Alison Wood, PA-C
 Also attending: Andy Borghese, Marina Rust Connor, Alexandra Gillespie

Derreth Roberts called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

Approval of draft minutes for the meeting of July 14, 2105. Upon MOTION made and seconded, the minutes were approved as written.

Update from the Health Center. Allie Wood reported on the following:

- From April 18 - through August 18, 2015, there have been 115 tick-related visits to the Health Center.

CIRCUMSTANCE	TREATMENT	NUMBER OF CASES
Tick bite, tick attached for less than 24 hours	No treatment, monitoring	Not yet calculated
Tick bite, tick attached for more than 24 hours. Suspicion of infection.	One-time dose doxycycline.	Not yet calculated
Confirmed diagnosis of Lyme disease according to CDC guidelines as evidenced by rash or lab test.	14-21 day course of antibiotic (doxycycline for adults, amoxicillin for children)	30
Lyme disease highly suspected as evidenced by symptoms.	14-21 day course of antibiotic (doxycycline for adults, amoxicillin for children)	11

- The Health Center has been seeing an increased number of patients who have symptoms of Lyme Disease a year or more after having been initially treated. Within the medical field there are differences of opinion about why these long-term symptoms occur and how they should be treated. Allie plans to attend the International Lyme and Associated Diseases Society (ILADS) conference in Fort Lauderdale in October, hoping for more clarity as new information becomes available.

Andy Borghese reported the IHC began participating in the Lyme & Tickborne Diseases Research Center's tick-borne disease diagnosis study in mid-July. It has taken a while to establish a process for enrolling patients, but now there is a good system. To date, two people have enrolled. People do want to help but are reluctant to make the commitment, which involves an initial appointment of 1-1½ hours and blood draws after six weeks, six months, a year, and two years. Enrollment does not have to begin the day the patient is diagnosed with Lyme disease. Andy said that Columbia staff is

pleased with IHC's participation and maintains that a total enrollment of four-five patients this year would be satisfactory. He added that Dorie will take over his work on the study when he leaves the IHC in mid-September.

Doug Welldon suggested that the September Tick Bulletin include a study update encouraging people to enroll.

Halsey Burgund's email of 8/17/15 to Arch Gillies. Linda circulated copies of the email, in which Halsey wrote that during his family's five-week stay in July family members and guests had many attached ticks and that he and a 4-year old visitor had contracted Lyme disease. It was agreed that Linda should encourage Halsey to adapt his email (with consent of the individuals names therein) as a letter for publication in the September issue of Islesboro Island News.

Dr. Sheridan Oldham's letter of June 13, 2015 to the MDIF&W Advisory Council (AC). Linda circulated a copy of the letter, in which Dr. Oldham urges the AC to vote against the DRC's proposal for a second three-year Special Hunt on the grounds that in the first three-year Special Hunt the number of deer taken was too small to reduce the herd to 10 per square mile. Linda said that both the Selectmen and the DRC had seen the letter. It was agreed that it was inappropriate to re-print the letter in the Tick Bulletin and that the timing was wrong for inclusion in the September IIN, which will appear after the AC vote on September 16th. Discussion ensued. Dr. Oldham could be a resource should the Town need to contact State health officials in the future. Also, should the AC vote the DRC proposal down, Dr. Oldham might be helpful in thinking through what happens next. T-bDPC members agreed to send a follow-up letter to Dr. Oldham prior to the AC vote providing updated tick-borne disease numbers and saying that in the committee's opinion, the Stantec numbers are credible.

Report on discussion of tick-borne disease prevention on Islesboro at Board of Selectmen meeting of August 12, 2015. Linda said that at the BoS meeting, Fred Porter had called for a Town tick-borne disease prevention policy "re-set." He suggested that the Town should fund prevention measures other than deer reduction. Linda said she suspected that a good number of community members agree with Fred and that this would be a good time to reaffirm the recommendations made by the Tick-borne Disease Prevention Committee in their report of May 2011. She said that she would try a draft and circulate it to the committee. The committee endorsed her proposal, saying that the "reaffirmation," which should be short and punchy, should be submitted to the BoS and included in the September Tick Bulletin.

Content of the September Bulletin. There was consensus that the Bulletin should include :

- updated tick-borne disease figures.
- an update about the study with encouragement to Lyme disease patients to enroll.
- an affirmation of the Tick-borne Disease Prevention Committee's May 2011 report's recommendations.

New business/old business.

- Doug asked what made the residents of Monhegan change their minds in favor of sharpshooting. Linda said it was because approximately one third of the population of about 75 people had contracted Lyme disease. She said she would ask Pete Rand and the Vector-borne Disease Laboratory (V-bDL). Marina suggested that pictures of children with Lyme might help change minds. Allie said this approach might turn people off. Members concurred that a shift in culture is needed for Islesboro residents to fully grasp the severity of our problems in respect to tick-borne disease.
- Alexandra asked if it would be possible to use the information in the V-bDL's July tick survey and in Stantec's May report to map the tick and deer "hot spots" on Islesboro. Linda said that she would see when the tick survey information will be ready, email a copy of the Stantec report to Alexandra, and introduce her to Michael Johnson of Stantec via email. Linda questioned how people would use the information; Doug said that it would contribute to the weight of the evidence.

Next DRC Meeting. As Derreth will be away for the month of September, it was decided to wait to schedule the next meeting until after her return.

After motion made, seconded, and approved, the meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Gillies, Secretary

Follow up:

- Suggest to Halsey Burgund that he adapt his email of 8/17/15 as a letter to IIN. Linda
- T-bDPC to send letter to Dr. Oldham updating the tick-borne disease figures and supporting the Stantec deer count numbers. Linda to draft
- Draft "reaffirmation" of Town's tick-borne disease prevention policy. Linda
- Draft Tick Bulletin, circulate for committee input/approval. Linda
- Ask Pete Rand about change of mind on Monhegan. Linda
- "Hot spots" map - check with C. Lubelczyk about when tick survey results will be available; email copy of Stantec report to Alexandra; introduce her to Michael Johnson.

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