

TOWN OF ISLESBORO  
DEER REDUCTION COMMITTEE

Meeting of Thursday, June 28, 2012, 4:30 PM, Town Office

MINUTES

Present: Pete Anderson, Linda Gillies, Philo Hutcheson, Carol Macaulay (by telephone), Gilbert Rivera, Fred Thomas (chair)

Absent: Jacob Bethune, Andrew Coombs, Paul Hatch, Jr., Don Johnson, Scott Sienkiewicz , Rachel Rolerson-Smith, William Tilden

Fred Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

Approval of Minutes, meeting of May 31, 2012. Upon MOTION made and seconded, the minutes were approved as amended.

Report on conference call of 6/19/12 with Keel Kemper. Fred Thomas, Pete Anderson and Philo Hutcheson participated in the call, which was made at Keel's request. The following points relating to the Special Hunt were discussed:

- *List of hunters.* MDIF&W would like to have a list of participants in the hunt. It should be submitted about a week beforehand and can be added to during the hunt. MDIF&W will use the list to check for felons.
- *Meat processing.* Keel said that the DRC should set up an accountability system to ensure that meat processed by Moon's Wild Game Processing and designated by the hunters to Hunters for the Hungry actually reaches the program.
- *MDIF&W participation.* During the hunt Wildlife Biologist Kendall Marden will be the principle MDIF&W person "on the ground" on Islesboro. He will make sure that the hunt gets off to an orderly start and will instruct tagging stations personnel in how to weigh and measure deer, etc. Keel and perhaps other MDIF&W staff will also be present from time to time.
- *Advisory Council meetings.* The next AC meeting will be on Thursday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 10 am in the fire station of New Harbor. DRC members are encouraged to attend. The final decision will be made at the September AC meeting.

There was discussion of Scott Sienkiewicz's email of 6/9/12 to Keel Kemper expressing his concern that the change in the Rule might lead to "hunting seasons we have repeatedly voted down." It was agreed that Keel's email response of 6/11/12 saying that, "There is no hidden agenda on behalf of MDIFW," was reassuring.

Review of Special Deer Hunt documents drafted by Hunter Safety Committee. Review of the documents led to a wide-ranging discussion of the Special Hunt implementation.

- *Hunter qualification.* Fred said the cases of people who owned a property on Islesboro but did not live here full-time represented a gray area. Philo said that DRC wanted as many qualified hunters as possible. He suggested adding a sentence to the application, “I hereby certify that the following statements are correct.”
- *Permits.*
  - It was agreed that each permit should have two signatures. Fred Thomas, Philo Hutcheson and Pete Anderson will be available to sign permits.
  - In order to avoid forgeries, the permits should have some kind of logo.
- *Landowner permission.*
  - Philo said that the DRC should not be engaged in the landowner permission process, which should involve only the landowners and the hunters.
  - It was agreed that hunters should be encouraged to obtain landowner permissions well in advance of the hunt, during the summer months if possible, when owners who are seasonal residents are on the island.
- *Boxholder mailings, IIN articles etc.* DRC should begin publicizing various aspects of the Special Hunt through IIN, boxholder mailings and signs on bulletin boards. The first information should promote:
  - Securing landowner permissions in advance.
  - Acquiring Hunter Orange articles of clothing for wear during the Special Hunt.Linda will do a draft for committee approval.
- *Records.* The master copy of the hunter list and copies of the permits should be kept at the Town Office.
- *Special Hunt safety briefings.*
  - Timing. The dates for three briefings should be “locked in stone” – the first would be held during the long Thanksgiving weekend, the second just before the hunt, and a third around Christmas. In addition, the Hunter Safety Committee should be available to give briefings on an as-needed basis to accommodate individual hunters unable to attend one of the three scheduled briefings.
  - Location. There was question as to whether the briefings could be held at the Sporting Club. Gil Rivera said he would inquire at the next club meeting, scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup>.
- *Deer processing.* As the process once a deer is killed will involve a number of steps - field dressing, tagging, handling of biological samples, transportation to and from Moon’s in Waldoboro, handling butchering preferences, meat distribution to Hunters for the Hungry - it was agreed that a new committee should be formed to plan for and implement that aspect of the Special Hunt. In her absence, Rachel Rolerson-Smith was proposed to chair the committee. Linda will check with Rachel.

Next Two Meetings. The next DRC meeting will be held on Thursday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 in the Town office. The agenda will include finalization of Special Hunt documents – application, permit, hunter identification - and the formation of the new committee for deer processing.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4:30 in the Town Office. The agenda will include a report on the AC meeting of August 16<sup>th</sup>.

New business/old business. Linda reported that the tick counting team from the Vector-borne Disease Laboratory had been on Islesboro that day. They expect to do another count on the island in October/November.

Upon MOTION made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Gillies, Secretary

#### FOLLOW UP

- Draft IIN article and boxholder mailing. (LG)
- Ask Sporting Club board if the Hunter Safety Briefings may be held at the Sporting Club. (GR)
- Check with Rachel about chairing a committee to handle all aspects of deer processing. (LG)

7/2/12