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**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
DEER COMMITTEE
EAST GOSHEN TWP BUILDING
1580 Paoli Pike
March 16, 2009**

D R A F T

The East Goshen Township Deer Committee held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday, March 16, 2009 at 7:00 pm at the East Goshen Township Building.

In attendance were: Chair - Jim McRee, members - Chuck Matasic, John Babiec, Linda Polishuk, and new members Jim Ryland and Tina Mussari. Marty Shane (Twp. Supervisor) and Chas Linder (Public Works) also attended. Joe Buannano (sp?), a West Goshen resident also attended.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. The chairman led the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was observed for the troops.

New members Tina Mussari and Jim Ryland were introduced to the group, and each gave some background information on themselves and why they are joining the Deer Committee. Jim, the committee and Marty welcomed them to the committee.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 2008 MINUTES

Minutes from February 23, 2009 were approved as corrected, with John, Jim and Tina abstaining.

Marty Shane praised Chas for all his difficult and hands on work for on the deer committee tasks this year.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Jim passed around copies of the "Journal of Wildlife Management" to committee members to look through. He said it seems to be a good resource for the committee.

4. COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

An article is due for the May Newsletter. There were 6 Deer Vehicle collisions in February. Jim now has the full Chester County data set. 15 of the surrounding townships have had more collisions than East Goshen.

5. DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A question from Joe Buannano was how the average from surrounding areas affects East Goshen Township. Cooperation of other townships for controlled deer hunt would be effective. He asked how much it costs per deer to effectively control the population, and stressed that we need other townships to participate, make sure that

1 the hunters are performing. He stressed this is a residential issue, not just a hunting
2 issue.

3
4 Marty Shane said that 1. There has to be an evaluation done to cut down the number
5 of hunting days to allow goal achievement, and 2. Find out if, given green space
6 limitations, we can have several days of a controlled hunt. Any way to cut down the
7 number of days of hunting, or free up more time for residents to use open areas is
8 key.

9
10 Much of the meeting time was taken up with refining language, and with discussion
11 of the Goals for 2009. Jim gave members the Deer Management Goals for 2009
12 along with proposed changes to be given to Board of Supervisors for their approval.

13
14 There are 8 parts to the Deer Management Program including Part 1- Goals, 2 -Land,
15 3 - Deer Management Groups, 4 - Assignment and Scheduling of Bow Hunting
16 Areas, with sub-categories of a Calendar, Area Assignments and Archer Scheduling,
17 5 - Hunting Procedures, 6 – Reporting, with Group/Archer Reporting and Township
18 Reporting Requirements, 7 – Complaints, and 8 – Initiative and Change Management.

19
20 Discussion centered on how specific to make the goals, which might mean changes
21 from season to season. By keeping the goal dates generalized to conform to the PA
22 Game Commission, fewer changes would have to be made. The goals must be clearly
23 stated to give the Board of Supervisors adequate information to be given to residents
24 of East Goshen Twp, yet with the flexibility of not being too rigid on goals and
25 changes that will change from year to year. The Deer Program groups want clear
26 direction by June. Supervisors need the goals by the April date to discuss at the
27 Board of Supervisors meeting. The interim goal for deer killed per season is 15, and
28 to break the cycle of increased deer population, the ultimate goal is 8-10. Jim
29 stressed that this is a long term program with possible different goals being put into
30 effect in the future. Several changes and re-statements or clarifications were made in
31 Parts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Goals outlined for 2009.

32
33 There was extensive discussion on Part 8 to clarify and make changes to present to
34 the Supervisors.

35
36 To conform to PA Game Commission wording, the words “Complete PGC Hunter-
37 Trapper Education Course, and PGC Bow Hunter Education Course” were inserted.
38 The section regarding “driving deer regulations to prevent deer from crossing roads,
39 thus preventing deer collisions was discussed in detail. “Driving of deer from one
40 area to another” is NOT permitted.

41 42 **6. DEER VEHICLE COLLISIONS**

43 Linda found a website for requesting grants. She talked to the Game Commission
44 and Senator Dinneman’s office again. We need to find a 100% grant. It was noted
45 that at the state level, a technical person reviews the grants, so we need to know who
46 at the state to go to.

1
2 **7. LYME DISEASE**

3 4-Poster and tick disease were explained to new members. The tools are the 4-posters
4 with feeder bait and tick tubes to catch ticks. It is not yet clear whether there are
5 fewer ticks. 4-Posters are for sale in the township. They treat deer killing the ticks
6 they carry with a 97% accuracy rate so far as we can tell. We are considering doing a
7 study to validate the 4-poster effectiveness. If deer are cleaned of ticks, the disease
8 drops dramatically. Dr Hertel's recommendation was to reduce the deer population to
9 get it down to 8 or below. John Babiec would like us to take a more aggressive
10 approach to reducing the deer population. There were vandalism problems with some
11 of the 4-posters. We can only put them out on township land; however residents can
12 purchase them for their developments if they want to help keep Lyme disease away.
13 Chas said some 4 posters are in bad shape, and he plans to go out this week to check
14 on them. We need to find the right balance of placement of 4-posters for maximum
15 effectiveness. Chas reported finding large areas of deer where they placed the 4-
16 posters. The worst areas were Bowtree, Applebrook, and Wentworth serviced areas.
17 Cameras placed at these areas help see deer and other animals using them and causing
18 damage. The 4-Posters need to be located more than 15 yards from the forest canopy
19 to be effective.

20
21 4-Posters will be deployed on May 1. 10 are available. Discussion was held on the
22 best areas to put them. There are low consumption rates in Bowtree, Supplee Valley,
23 Ridley Creek and Milltown. It was suggested to move one to Supplee Valley West,
24 leave the 9 where they are. A motion was made, seconded and approved to leave the
25 9 where they are now, and place the 10th feeder north west of Supplee Valley. Chas
26 will start putting them out on April 1. Others will be put out in mid-August. They
27 will be taken out before hunting season begins.

28
29 Grant requests must be presented to supervisors, but we should pursue any and all
30 grant money wherever possible.

31
32 Marty again stressed giving the Board of Supervisors specific goals, with specific
33 language so it is clear what the committee intends to do. Marty said the overall goal
34 is to reduce the length of time for hunting. We need to give information from our
35 data to the supervisors. There was extensive discussion on using sharp shooters and
36 rifle hunting to kill deer in a short period of time. However, this entails rules and
37 regulations, costs and other drivers for the program. We should strive to keep open
38 space available longer in residential areas, reduce the time of hunting days and hours,
39 as these are the main concerns and complaints of residents.

40
41 **8. OTHER MATTERS**

42 NONE

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44
45 **9. PUBLIC COMMENT**

46 NONE

1 **10. ADJOURNMENT**

2 A motion was made, seconded and approved to adjourn the meeting at 10:00 pm.

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4 The next meetings are scheduled for Monday, April 20, and Monday, May 18, 2009.

5 Workshops may be added during the 1st Monday of the month.

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7

8 Respectfully submitted,

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11

12 Barbara Woodin

13 Recording Secretary