

**EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
DEER COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
February 28, 2011**

The East Goshen Township Deer Committee held their regularly scheduled meeting on Monday February 28, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at the East Goshen Township building. In attendance were: Jim McRee (chairman), Linda Polishuk, and Chuck Matasic. Also in attendance were Mark Gordon (Township Zoning Officer), Marty Shane (Township Supervisor), Mark Kawecki (Conservancy Board) and Bob Earnhart (Resident).

1. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The chairman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Linda led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence for our troops.

2. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Linda moved to approve the minutes from August 10, 2010. Chuck seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

Linda moved to approve the minutes from November 15, 2010. Chuck seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. 2011 Budget - Jim reported that because of budget cuts the 4 poster tick program has been suspended for this year.

B. The Valley Forge Deer Management Program is ahead of expectations. It will go through March and their goal is to harvest 500 deer.

C. Election of Officers – Jim asked if anyone else would like to be Chairman. Chuck moved to retain the current officers. Linda seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion passed.

4. COMMUNICATION AND EDUCATION

Matt missed the deadline for the spring Newsletter. He will submit an article for the July Newsletter which will be due in May.

5. DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

A. The hunting season 2010 harvested 29 deer. Mark reported that the hunters were great to work with, scheduling went smoothly, there were no incidents, and the tripod stand worked out well with no negative comments.

Bob Earnhart of N. Lochwood Lane mentioned that he still sees deer everyday even though there are 4 tree stands in the area behind his home. He has lived there 19 years and the deer use the same trail all the time, along the pipe line. He would like to see more hunters more often. He also cleans up the trash that is left behind from the kids who hang out there. He has had to call the police.

Jim reported the count by area: Bow Tree 12, Supplee Valley 7, Grand Oak 3, and Wentworth 7. Mark mentioned that the numbers for Bow Tree were down because of the expansion of the sewer plant. Also, the season was reduced by the State which took away a week around the holidays. The State also took away the opportunity to use bait because they didn't feel it was beneficial.

Mr. Earnhart asked if the hunters could be assigned times to hunt. Jim explained that it is better to let the hunters tell the township when and where they want to hunt and have the township approve their requests. The hunters here have to hunt from pre-established tree stands. Also, there is the safety zone which restricts them.

Marty commented that there is a balance between what those who wanted the program want and what the hunters wanted. When safety was considered the most important thing was to have no incidents but still harvest deer. The goal was to average 36 deer per year over 10 years. He feels the program is well run and has no costs.

Chuck feels the utilization for the Lochwood area should be looked at. Maybe the hunt areas should be switched for the clubs next year. He also suggested that the township clear out some of the thicket behind Mr. Earnhart's home.

Linda asked why there were so many young deer in the harvested report. Chuck feels it is probably inexperience. The hunters pay \$6/deer tag so they aren't just hunting buck, they are hunting as they should.

Jim said they have a choice to recommend the program to the Board of Supervisors for the coming year or wait until the May meeting. Chuck felt it should be done in May when more members are at the meeting.

Chuck has heard that PA may allow Sunday hunting. Most states allow hunting on Sunday.

Mark wants to start tracking by gender.

6. DEER VEHICLE COLLISIONS

A. Collisions - Jim reported that for November there were 5, December 6 and January 6. This is much less than the first year. Only about ¼ of accidents are reported to the police. There are no numbers for the deer that run away and die somewhere else.

7. LYME DISEASE

A. Mr. Earnhart pointed out that Lyme Disease was a big concern at the original meetings. He asked when the 4 posters would be reinstated. Jim said probably not until 2012 and only if the Board of Supervisors approves funding for this.

8. ANY OTHER MATTER

A. Mark mentioned that there may be an opportunity for a hunt in the area of Lochwood and Hershey's Mill Rd. Several property owners in this area are interested. This could be the first private hunt.

B. Mark said the Board of Supervisors would like to have an end-of-year presentation. Jim will do this.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held May 16, 2011.

Linda moved to adjourn the meeting. Chuck seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Ruth Kiefer, Recording Secretary

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