



WILDWOOD

Meeting of the
BOARD OF PUBLIC SAFETY
Deer Management Subcommittee
Tuesday, August 27, 2019

Wildwood City Hall Community Room
16860 Main Street
APPROVED

Committee Members in Attendance:

Marshal Dan McCune
Sgt Brad Wendling, St Louis County Police
Board Member Dave Williams

Also Present:

Rick Brown, Director of Public Works / City Engineer
Brendan Maher, Civil Engineer
Sarah Van Woert, Police Analyst, St. Louis County Police

I. ROLL CALL

A roll call was taken at 6:00 pm, with the above noted as present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Marshal Dan McCune made a motion to approve minutes from the July 30th meeting. Chair David Williams seconded the motion. All voted aye.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Council Member Dr. Gragnani stated that some residents in Ward 1 have opposition to hunting and culling programs. He also speculated that some intensive management programs, such as the Town and Country sharp shooter management program, spur an increase in a local deer population because of the stress of the intensive hunting.

IV. DATA COLLECTION: RESIDENT SURVEYS AND INPUT AND ADDITIONAL DISTANCE SAMPLING OF DEER

A. Sarah Van Woert, Police Analyst for the St. Louis County Police Department, explained options for creating resident surveys to determine public opinion about various deer management options. The St. Louis County police have conducted resident surveys before and have shown increased participation with online survey methods. She believes the surveys should include information about management methods, costs, and possibly the use of ESRI Story maps and info graphs to help describe the issue to the participants.

B. The 2018 Deer Distance Sampling Survey was conducted by the St. Louis County Police department under the supervision of the Missouri Department of Conservation. As a data analyst, Sarah recommended a repeated

survey of the same research area, 1-3 years after a management program is in place, in order to compare the population data.

C. The St. Louis County Police can provide data analyst and survey assistance at no cost to the City of Wildwood. It was discussed that the official and final survey would have to be subject to review and approved.

V. DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM CHARTER

A. Education about the deer overpopulation issue, a resident survey, a possible 2019 deer distance sampling survey, and a possible culling program will be discussed and moved forward by the committee. The goal is to reduce overall deer strikes with vehicles, destruction to homeowner landscaping, and to even reduce the spread of deer tick born disease in Wildwood.

VI. POTENTIAL CAPTURE AND CULL PROGRAM

A. Chair David Williams described a capture and cull idea similar to methods used by the Missouri Department of Conservation for capturing wild boars. Use of this method would occur on St Louis County or City of Wildwood property in an undisclosed location. The deer would essentially be lured into a pen that has a remotely operated gate and dispatched. The meat would be donated to Share the Harvest.

B. The Missouri Department of Conservation is currently reviewing the idea in terms of use for deer. Other members present were concerned that the panic of several deer in an enclosure would lead to the destruction of the enclosure.

C. A Deer Distance Sampling Survey would need to be conducted in any area prior to a culling program taking place there.

VII. NEXT MEETING DATE:TBD

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chair David Williams to adjourn, this was seconded by Sgt. Wendling. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:28pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle Scherer
Administrative Assistant