

**Deer Management Task Force
Meeting Notes
October 17, 2022**

Reviewed the Deer Survey Analytics supplied by Kerri Harrington

Reviewed the summary notes. Corrections will be made and formatted so it's easier to read and use

Discussed sharing information from the DEC presentation on special deer hunting permits in the area with local hunters that we know.

Discussed concerns about crossbow hunting within city limits. We agreed to limit our discussion about this option at this time.

Questions:

Is hunting permitted on the land surrounding the city reservoir?

What about a grant for fencing for deer mitigation?

Can we enlist help with Zoom classes for the community on:

 Tick bite avoidance

 Plantings that are deer-resistant

Discussed the Community Deer Management Flow Chart provided by the DEC:

High awareness of the issue within the community

Consensus within the community that a problem exists and something should be done

Clarification of just what the problem is

As a group we felt that the survey combined with an article in the Daily Star, and links to the survey on a number of Facebook sites, and the booth at the Grand and Glorious event increased community awareness and the ability of the community to weigh in with their perspectives on deer population issues. A community meeting with representatives from the DEC was well attended. A question and answer session followed the presentation.

Participating in the survey, reading an article in the Daily Star, attending a public meeting, and sharing information on Facebook has helped the community understand that the deer impact is city-wide.

We discussed options:

Lowering speed limits

Deer resistant planting

Tick-bite avoidance

Recreational hunting

Next Steps:

Members will review deer management plans that are offered by the DEC, Cornell University, and the Nature Conservancy, selecting items from the plan that we might use in our proposal.

Reviewed our mission: We are a task force that collects information and will craft a proposal that will be offered to the Quality of Life and Infrastructure Committee. From there it will be reviewed. If the committee agrees that a management plan is needed, they will have our information to use as a basis for their plan.

We discussed as a group the importance of a group of volunteers working together on a problem with the hope of helping solve a city-wide problem. I

Next meeting: Monday, October 26, 4:15.

I'll send the other attachments for Deer Management Plans and DEC hunting regs in the next email.