

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Tuesday, July 28, 2020
Remote participation: Zoom Meeting

Meeting ID: 845 6804 9270

The Board of Selectmen met on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. by remote participation via Zoom Meeting (Meeting ID: 845 6804 9270). Those present were Chair Alan Lewis, Barney Arnold, Kate Reid, Luke Ascolillo and David Model.

*This meeting was live streamed and recorded <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gwvzvs59zww>

In accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law Remote Participation 940 CMR 29.10 all votes shall be by roll call.

Town Administrator's Report:

1-Security Policy (WISP)

The Board of Selectmen received a draft Written Information Security Policy (WISP) for review. The Town's Auditor and their IT Team have strongly recommended the adoption of a similar policy to address potential security risks identified as part of the FY19 Audit.

Town Administrator Timothy Goddard clarified that the draft policy as presented this evening is for informational purposes only and will need to be modified for Carlisle.

It was agreed by the board to task the Town Administrator will establishing a working group with members who have cyber security expertise to assist with the drafting of the Written Information Security Policy for Carlisle. Mr. Model offered his assistance.

David Model suggested adopting the practice of policy introduction at one meeting and to schedule the vote to adopt the policy at a subsequent meeting which will allow more time for members to review and ask questions.

2-Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Committee Recommendations - School Reopening

The Traffic & Pedestrian Safety Committee met last week to consider a number of traffic calming and pedestrian related requests for the reopening of school this fall.

Luke Ascolillo presented the Board of Selectmen with the following options to improve pedestrian and vehicle safety as follows:

1. Install a third stop sign, with the wording "all way", at the intersection of Church and School Streets.

A third stop sign would result in less confusion forcing vehicles from all directions to stop when they reach the intersection. Currently, vehicles traveling southbound on School Street towards Church Street do not have to stop.

2. Install a "No Thru Traffic Between the Hours of 7-9 am" sign at the intersection of Westford Street and Church Street.

Approximately 20% of the vehicles traveling towards Carlisle center from Westford use this as a cut through to either go by CPS and travel down Church Street or to drive up the hill partially and turn left onto School Street. The goal is to eliminate this traffic.

3. Install a second "No Thru Traffic Between the Hours of 7-9 am" sign at the intersection of Concord Street and Church Street.

Same reasoning as #2, except this will capture traffic turning off Concord Street

It was the consensus of the board that not to approve any changes until construction has been completed on the Rotary.

Additionally, the Traffic and Pedestrian Safety Committee requested two quotes for the installation of a conduit across Bedford Road:

1. From the library side to 21-23 Bedford Road was \$10,880. - This was requested by the owners of 21-23 Bedford Road
2. To the center of the rotary was \$8,400. -This was requested by the Garden Club

It was the consensus of the board not to approve the additional expense to add electrical conduit tot the rotary due to the additional expense not currently budgeted. The board did not object to the private electric conduit since this involved no additional expense to the Town of Carlisle.

3-Police Lieutenant - Contract Renewal

The board received a request to begin negotiations regarding new employment agreement for Police Lt. Leo Crowe.

It was agreed to designate two members during the Fiscal Year 2021 Board of Selectmen Liaison Assignments.

4-FY21 Pay Rates -Fire Department

The Board of Selectmen received a copy of the calculated FY21 pay rates for the Fire Department.

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was **VOTED** to approve the FY21 Fire Department Payroll Changes as prepared by Town Accountant Priscilla Dumka.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye. D. Model-abstained.

Upon the suggestion by Mr. Model, it was agreed to require a summary narrative of the pay rate changes along with a spreadsheet (preferably in excel format) from the Fire Chief and to request a budget impact statement from the Town Accountant.

Approval of remediation costs for UST at Fire Station

After cleaning the underground tank at the Fire Station, CommTank cored holes in the bottom (2x) and sides (2x) for soil sampling. The soil samples from the bottom had elevated PID readings: East end 620 PPM/West end 451 PPM. Any reading greater than 100 PPM triggers a mandatory notification requirement to MassDEP. Wilcox & Barton, the town's contracted LSP, notified DEP as required. Wilcox & Barton prepared a new scope of work to deal with the remediation which the Chair authorized last Thursday in the interest of time. There is approximately \$45K remaining from a Town Meeting warrant article (originally \$70K) to deal with the remediation of contamination at the fuel tank removal sit that can be used to fund this unanticipated expense.

There was no object to the use of the remaining funds approved by Town Meeting for the remediation of the contamination at the fuel tank removal site.

Meeting Schedule:

August 4th –Working Session (FY21 Goals/Objectives)

August 11, 2020

August 25, 2020

Recap of Annual Town Meeting with Moderator

Town Moderator Wayne Davis met with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the June 20th Annual Town Meeting which was held outside on the plaza at Carlisle Public Schools due to COVID-19 pandemic.

The Board of Selectmen thanked Wayne Davis for conducting a successful Town Meeting and for his extraordinary efforts to protect the public and town employees by implementing the necessary safety protocols and procedures. The Board of Selectmen has voted to reduce the Town Meeting

quorum from 150 to 75 and only time-sensitive items were placed on the June 20th Town Meeting Warrant.

Town Meeting passed all of the warrant articles and lasted approximately 1 hour. The Fiscal Year 2021 Operating Budget along with eleven other warrant articles were postponed until a fall Special Town Meeting.

Wayne Davis suggested a timeframe to conduct a fall Special Town Meeting between late September and mid-October since the meeting will most likely need to be held outside due to COVID19.

The Town of Concord has already voted to hold a fall STM on Sunday, September 13th.

It was agreed to invite the Finance Committee to have a FY21 Budget Coordination meeting in August. A tentative list of fall STM warrant articles prepared by the Town Administrator and Chair will be sent to all town departments, boards and committees requesting to know whether the sponsored article is urgent or if it could wait until spring Town Meeting.

Resignations and appointments:

Trails Committee

On the motion made by Barney Arnold and seconded by Kate Reid, it was **VOTED** to accept the letter of resignation submitted by Jonathan DeKock from the Deer Control Committee, Energy Task Force and Trails Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Carlisle Affordable Housing Trust

On the motion made by Barney Arnold and seconded by Kate Reid, it was **VOTED** to appoint the following members of the Carlisle Affordable Housing Trust as follows:

- BOS members: Luke Ascolillo, Kate Reid, Barney Arnold & David Model with terms expiring 6/30/21
- Citizens-at-Large: No action taken pending further advertisement of open positions

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

It was agreed to continue to post the Citizen-at-large positions to solicit more interest in serving on the Affordable Housing Trust

Caroline Hill Scholarship Committee

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was **VOTED** to appoint Frank Krimowski (74 Prospect St) to serve on the Caroline Hill Scholarship Committee with a term expiring on June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Hanscom Field Advisory Committee

On the motion made by Barney Arnold and seconded by Kate Reid, it was **VOTED** to appoint Lars Benard (178 Brook St) to serve on the Hanscom Field Advisory Committee with a term expiring on June 30, 2021.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Trails Committee

On the motion made by Barney Arnold and seconded by Kate Reid, it was **VOTED** to appoint the following individuals to serve on the Trails Committee as follows:

- Full-time members: Charlene Hinton (684 East St) with a term expiring 6/30/23 and Alan Blevins (112 Tophet St) with a term expiring 6/30/21
- Associate members: Helen Young (623 Heald Rd), Christian Hedlund (87 Wolf Rock Rd) and Chris Chiappella (128 Log Hill Rd) with terms expiring 6/30/23.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Deer Control Committee

On the motion made by Barney Arnold and seconded by Kate Reid, it was **VOTED** to appoint Stephen Keele (800 Curve St) and George Michalik (94 Canterbury Court) to serve on the Deer Control Committee.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Public Hearing – Verizon/Eversource

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was **VOTED** to open and continue the public hearing regarding the petition of Eversource Energy for grant of location in the public way; CHURCH ST. until 9:00 PM this evening.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

DPW – Discussion Chapter 90 Funding

The Board of Selectmen met with DPW Superintendent Gary Davis to discuss Chapter 90 Funding. The

Chapter 90 distribution for fiscal year 2021 for the Town of Carlisle was approx. \$250,000. Mr. Davis explained that Carlisle has received approximately the same amount for the past several years.

Cities and Towns are required to submit a request and receive written approval before beginning any Chapter 90 project.

Future Chapter 90 Project for Carlisle include:

• Acton Street – Entire Length	\$130,000.00
• East Street – Portion of	\$130,000.00
• Curve Street – Portion of	\$65,000.00
• Patch Meadow Lane	\$17,000.00
• Pine Brook Road	\$31,000.00
• Tophet Road	\$50,000.00
• Carlton Road	\$35,000.00
• Pheasant Lane	\$33,000.00
• Baldwin Road	<u>\$29,000.00</u>
Total:	\$520,00.00

Complete Streets Project: The Town of Carlisle submitted a construction funding application in October 2018 and received an award of \$250,000 to fund Projects 1, 2 and 4 from the prioritization plan.

Town Meeting appropriated \$50K for design services and an additional \$125K in Chapter 90 funds used to supplement the state grant for construction of the road improvements.

Discussion/vote regarding bow hunting on Town properties

Barney Arnold took the opportunity acknowledge the large amount of time both the Deer Control Committee and the Board of Selectmen have invested in discussing the Deer Hunt Program, and the intense response from members of the public on both sides of the issue. Ms. Arnold explained that because there is not enough time for the Deer Control Committee to plan and execute a safe deer hunt this fall. It is the recommendation of the Deer Control Committee that the Board of Selectmen vote to postpone the 2020 Deer Hunt and that a warrant article be brought to town meeting to determine whether the Town wishes to control the deer population by allowing bow hunting on town land.

The committee further recommends that the warrant article question be agreed to by both those in favor and those opposed to the hunt so that it is a fair question. It was further requested that the question be binding and that it should last for some reasonable duration of time before the question is re-examined.

Alex Parra, Vice-chair of the Deer Control Committee offered his support of putting the issue before the Town in form of a Town Meeting Warrant Article. Mr. Parra explained that the deer hunt has been hugely divisive and due to the controversial nature of this issue, the Deer Control Committee became the focus of opposition and members have resigned as a result.

On the motion made by Barney Arnold and seconded by Luke Ascolillo, it was **VOTED** to suspend the 2020 Deer Hunt until after Town Meeting has had the opportunity to vote on whether to control the deer population.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Eversource Public Hearing Continuation

Alan Lewis reconvened the public hearing for Eversource. Due to there being no representatives present from Eversource to answer questions, it was agreed by the board to continue the hearing to the next regular scheduled meeting.

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it **VOTED** to continue the public hearing until August 11, 2020 at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Approval of Minutes

June 18, 2020

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was **VOTED** to approve the minutes of June 18, 2020 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-abstained.

June 23, 2020

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was **VOTED** to approve the minutes of June 23, 2020 as presented.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye-abstained.

July 14, 2020

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was **VOTED** to approve the minutes of July 14, 2020 as amended.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Liaison Reports:

Kate Reid - Municipal Facilities Committee

Carlisle's Building Commissioner Jon Metivier and Town Facilities Manager Steve Bastek recently inspected the Highland Building. Due to damage to the stairs, the Building Commissioner has made the determination that both the north and south stairs from the basement and ground level to the first floor are unsafe and should not be used. It was also recommended to remove all storage from the first and second floors.

The Municipal Facilities Committee (MFC) have recommended to the Board of Selectmen to require town departments to remove stored items at the Highland Building. It was agreed to invite the Municipal Facilities Committee to meet with the Board of Selectmen to discuss further.

On the motion made by Kate Reid and seconded by David Model, it was **VOTED** to accept the recommendation of the Municipal Facilities Committee to have the Board of Selectmen control the occupancy of the Highland Building.

ROLL CALL VOTE: B. Arnold-Aye, L. Ascolillo-Aye, K. Reid-Aye, A. Lewis- Aye and D. Model-Aye.

Alan Lewis – FY21 Goal Setting Working Session

Alan Lewis informed the board that resident Marc Wey has offered his facilitation services free of charge to assist the Board of Selectmen with long-term strategic planning and goal setting for Fiscal Year 2021.

David Model suggested that the members prepare for this meeting by bring a list of their top 3 goals which can be accomplished in one year.

On the motion made by Alan Lewis and seconded by Barney Arnold, it was unanimously **VOTED** to adjourn the meeting.

List of documents discussed at meeting

- BOS Meeting Packet Material
- List of email correspondence received by the selectmen for its 7/28/2020 agenda item relative to the 2020 Deer Hunt Program and the recommendations of Deer Control Committee.

Email correspondence sent to selectmen for their 7/28/2020 Meeting

- 1- From: luisa nazzaro - Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:05 PM
- 2- From: Jodi Rodar Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 2:35 PM
- 3- From: Alain Bojarski Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 4:27 PM
- 4- From: Kimberly Boschi Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:37 PM
- 5- From: Kim Boschi sent: Tuesday, Jul 28, 2020, at 12:31 PM
- 6- From: David Liquori Sent: Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 11:44 AM
- 7- From: Tudor Rosca Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:27 AM
- 8- From: Charles Schiappa Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:23 AM
- 9- From: Judy Asarkof Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 2:17 PM
- 10- From: Jeannie Geneczko Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 12:37 PM
- 11- From: Mike Hanauer Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020, 08:43:03 AM EDT
- 12- From: Beth Maloney Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:44 PM
- 13- From: Deb Jancek Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:28 PM
- 14- From: Beth Maloney - Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:44 PM
- 15- From: Raylon Yow Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 2:15 PM
- 16- From: Camelia Rosca Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:09 AM
- 17- From: Chris Christodoulou Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 3:25 PM
- 18- From: Donald Allen Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 10:53 AM

-----Original Message-----

From: luisa nazzaro <lakota30@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:05 PM

To: Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>

Subject: Vote

Please vote NO on the deer hunt tonight Listen to the people!

Thank You

Luisa Nazzaro

Sent from my iPhone

From: Jodi Rodar <hooppole@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 2:35 PM

To: barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Dmodel@tritonsys.com

Subject: Please Say No To The Deer Bow Hunt

Dear Officials;

I am writing with great concern, knowing that you will be voting on whether to allow a bow hunt for deer this fall. I am urging you to say no to the bow hunt.

I don't know if any of you have witnessed a deer bow hunt first hand. It is often devastating and cruel for the deer. Many deer don't actually die right away, they often suffer for longer than any animal should. It is hard to understand how this is allowed in this day and age.

Please do not allow this cruelty to take place.

I strongly urge you to vote no to the bow hunt of deer.

Thank you for your time regarding this urgent issue.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jodi Rodar

-----Original Message-----

From: A&E Bojarski <aeb1227@comcast.net>

Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 4:27 PM

To: Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>

Subject: Deer hunting

Dear BOS,

We don't think that there are compelling evidences that the deer population is the principal cause of the tick proliferation.

We feel that the deer population was much higher 22 years ago when we moved to Carlisle; every winter, we had to find ways to prevent the deers from feeding on our bushes... It is no longer the case and we don't see as many deers as in the past.

In the meantime, it seems that the coyote population has increased and we can see and hear them much more frequently than in the past. As natural predators, they might be the reason why the deer population is under control.

In addition, we are opposed to any type of hunting on public lands that prevent their use by the large Carlisle population of hikers.

Alain and Elisabeth Bojarski
843 Acton Street
Carlisle

From: Kimberly Boschi <kimberly.boschi@octoscope.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 12:37 PM

To: David Model; Town Hall

Subject: Fwd: Input on tonight's BOS topics

Hi David and Luke,

Not sure my initial email made it to you guys...I got a bounce back from dmodel@carlislema.gov. Anyway, please see my message below.

Thanks!

- Kim

On Jul 28, 2020, at 12:31 PM, Kim Boschi <kimberly.boschi@octoscope.com> wrote:
Hi BOS,

Just a quick note to reiterate that my household is against continuing the deer hunt on public land in Carlisle. We've talked at length about the pros and cons of continuing the hunt on town land. As time moves along, some things change and others remain the same. The deer committee is lacking members and there are rumors of the gentleman who spoke at the deer committee input session from last July is a potential for the deer committee. If this is correct, please watch from just at 45:00 to 46:20 on the linked youtube video of the input session (you may need to cut and paste the link into a browser). I "clearly" don't respond well to implied threats of this kind and I hope you don't either.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1ljt_EVyUIY

We've talked about the desire to have freedom of fear when walking our town's trails. Please don't mistake this fear as one from a weak or generally frightened individual. I have scuba dived in many far reaching places and intentionally dove with bull sharks. I have been to many a dark water not knowing what will swim by. The waters I go in aren't mine and I am prepared for the unknown. If I was weak or generally frightened I would not continue diving deep waters, I would not play ice hockey at 52 years old with players 22 years younger than me, I would not continue to travel to Papua New Guinea. I don't scare easily yet when put in a situation like Alyson Becker described, it is scary to me. Unlike the ocean, the town land is ours, and we should be able to use them freely and without worry. Right now we all need to be outside as much as possible and feel safe. It's really not a good time to restrict use of our lands for our citizens.

I believe we have talked enough about tics and undergrowth and everything else related to the science of why continuing the deer hunt doesn't make sense. Now with a skeleton of a committee can you all please take into consideration the limitations and restrictions we are all living under trying to keep our committee safe and vote no to continue the deer hunt on our town lands.

Thanks for the time,
- Kim Boschi 127 Laurelwood.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **David Liquori** <dliquori@gmail.com>

Date: Tue, Jul 28, 2020 at 11:44 AM

Subject: Proposed 2020 bow deer hunt

To: <TownHall@carlislema.gov>, <barney4carlisle@gmail.com>, <KReid@carlislema.gov>, <alewis@carlislema.gov>, <lascolillo@carlislema.gov>, <dmodel@carlislema.gov>

Cc: Emily Clough <emily.clough@gmail.com>

To the Board of Selectman,

My wife, son, and I live in Carlisle and regularly hike and bike the trails in Carlisle. One of the primary reasons we moved here, and one of Carlisle's largest assets, is all of the wonderful wooded public space. We would not feel comfortable being in the woods during bow-hunts. I imagine most Carlisle residents would feel similarly. It seems like a shame to risk the pleasure of so many people for the "pleasure" of a few.

If there are other reasons why Carlisle should have a bow hunt, I'd be glad to listen and entertain those viewpoints.

How can we virtually attend tonight's BOS meeting?

Much appreciated,

David Liquori and Emily Clough

168 Heald Rd, Carlisle, MA 01741

From: Tudor Rosca <tudorrosca2006@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 8:27 AM

To: TownHall@carlislema.gov; David Model <DModel@tritonsys.com>; barney4carlisle@gmail.com;
KReid@carlislema.gov; alewis@carlislema.gov

Subject: Seventh Graders Ask to Stop Deer Hunting

Dear Board of Selectmen,

We, a few seventh graders in the Carlisle Public Schools, are writing to ask you to stop bow deer hunting in our town. Please read the attached letter about why we believe bow deer hunting has no place in our town.

Thank you,

Tudor Rosca, 7th grade
Sophia Fiorenza, 7th grade
Mairead Shea, 7th grade
Emma Rowland, 7th grade
Ben Pixley, 7th grade
Anya Miulescu, 7th grade
Noah Burns, 7th grade

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July 27, 2020

Dear Carlisle Board of Selectmen,

We are seventh graders in the Carlisle Public Schools. We heard and read about the deer hunt program going on in our town and we wanted to let you know that we talked about it and about the pros and cons of a deer hunt. From what we read, we understood that there are some pros and some cons to bow deer hunting. The pro is that some people enjoy killing deer with arrows. The cons are that some Carlisle residents are now afraid to go on public land because of the possibility of being hit with a stray arrow and that only about half of deer hit die immediately; the other half run into the woods to die a slow and painful death from infection.

We also learned about some myths related to deer hunting and would like to share with you both the myths and the truths.

Myth: Bow deer hunting helps control deer overpopulation.

Truth: Bow deer hunting does not help control deer overpopulation. In addition, Carlisle does not have a proven deer overpopulation problem in the first place.

Myth: Bow deer hunting helps stop Lyme disease.

Truth: Studies show that lowering the population of deer does not help stop Lyme disease. What helps is lowering the population of rodents and small mammals.

In conclusion, bow deer hunting does not help the environment, humans, or anything else in any way, but causes massive harm to deer who take days to die from infection and makes residents afraid to walk on public land.

We hope that you will also think about the truths of bow deer hunting and that you will stop the hunt in our town.

Sincerely,

Tudor Rosca, 7th grade
Sophia Fiorenza, 7th grade
Mairead Shea, 7th grade
Emma Rowland, 7th grade
Ben Pixley, 7th grade
Anya Miulescu, 7th grade
Noah Burns, 7th grade

From: Charles Schiappa <c_schiappa@comcast.net>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 11:23 AM
To: Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; DModel@tritonsys.com; barney4carlisle@gmail.com
Cc: Tim Goddard <tgoddard@carlislema.gov>; Jennifer Gibbons <jgibbons@carlislema.gov>
Subject: Carlisle Deer Hunt 2020

Subject: Carlisle Deer Hunt 2020

We oppose the 2020 deer hunt in Carlisle. We especially oppose it this year because there are more people and families using the trails now that COVID has everyone staying home and looking for ways to get out and enjoy nature.

We live on Stearns Street and walk by the parking lot at Malcolm Meadows frequently. Since COVID travel restrictions have been put in place, we have noticed on many occasions that the parking lot has had 8 or 9 cars, essentially full, from individuals and families with their pets enjoying the Davis Corridor trail and path to Estabrook Woods. Before COVID, it would be rare to find more than 2 cars there at a time – unless the Trails Committee was having a meeting or sponsored walk.

We believe that the increase in the number of trail walker's and families enjoying Carlisle's Woods will increase the likelihood of interaction between hunters and people enjoying the woods and we are concerned that this may lead to an accident.

Please do not approve Deer Hunting in Carlisle for 2020.

Charles & Barbara Schiappa
135 Stearns Street
Carlisle MA

From: Judy Asarkof <rigleyman@aol.com>

Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 2:17 PM

To: Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; DModel@tritonsys.com; barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Tim Goddard <tgoddard@carlislema.gov>; Jennifer Gibbons <jgibbons@carlislema.gov>

Subject: I am against the HUNT

I am against the HUNT for many reasons but the biggest one is that there is no unbiased scientific evidence showing that we have an over population of deer, that we have over-browsing in our town, or that bow hunting would help if we even had an issue AND it all points to the fact that we are choosing to hunt with NO Carlisle-based data. Carlisle is different from other towns - we should know how, why, when and what happens in OUR town and choose it based upon objective science!

Judy Asarkof
362 River Road
Carlisle

From: Jeannie Geneczko <jeanniegen@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020 12:37 PM
To: Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; Luke Ascolillo <luke.ascolillo@comcast.net>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; barney4carlisle@gmail.com; DModel@tritonsys.com
Cc: Tim Goddard <tgoddard@carlislema.gov>; Jennifer Gibbons <jgibbons@carlislema.gov>
Subject: Financial Argument Against 2020 Deer Hunt

Dear Carlisle Board of Selectpersons,

For the 2018 and 2019 hunts, the town paid an estimated \$11, 880 to kill 16 deer at a cost of 110 hours of the ConsCom Administrative Assistant's time.

2018 and 2019 Hunt Costs (reconstructed from Town records and personal notes)

The Carlisle Deer Bow Hunt was supposed to cost the town zero dollars. The 18 hunters' fees of \$30 each (\$540 total) were going to cover the Deer Agent's stipend of \$300 and the signage costs with perhaps a few dollars left over. There were no dollars left over. (Since administering the hunt was not expected to cost much, no monies were set aside for the Conservation Commission's administration of the hunt or of the Town Administrator's work on CORI checks. The expected minimal expenditures of those offices would be absorbed easily somewhere else in the town's budget.)

That zero dollar estimate proved to be grossly inaccurate. Speaking at the 3/26/19 BOS meeting, the Conservation Commission Administrator told the BOS that "an obscene amount of her (the administrative assistant's) time" was expended for the 2018 hunt. The estimated annual dollar value without benefits would be approximately \$5400; with a ballpark number of 20% benefits, that number rises to \$6480. The ConsCom Administrator and the ConsCom Chair asked for more money for their Administrative Assistant. (Attached is the document "Deer Control Committee Administrative Support 2019" highlighting the tasks the ConsCom Administrative Assistant does for the Bow Hunt. I assume any 2018 document would have been similar.)

For the 2018 hunt there were 10 deer killed, 5 males and 5 females. Each deer killed cost the town about \$648.

For the 2019 hunt, the number of hours for the administrative assistant dropped by about 20% for an estimated total annual dollar value with benefits of \$5400, instead of \$6480. For the 2019 hunt, there were 6 deer killed, 3 males and 3 females. Each deer killed cost the town about \$900. (Per the ConsCom Minutes of 5/14/20, ConsCom reports 60 hours spent on the hunt by the Administrative Assistant in 2018 and 50 hours spent in 2019, thus the 20% drop.)

For the 2018 and 2019 hunts, the town paid an estimated total of \$11, 880 to kill 16 deer. Not only that, but 110 hours of the Administrative Assistant's time was taken up at the expense of other tasks she was supposed to be working on.

The Deer Control Committee's "2020 Proposed Plan for Deer Control" Budget

The DCC recognized that the hunt dollar costs and hours for 2018 and 2019 were much too high for the town and the BOS. The proposed solution is to gut the 2020 budget of any administration support which makes no sense. (See attachment for proposed "Budget.") Someone from Town Hall still needs to process, manage, and keep records as explained in the "Deer Control Committee Administrative Support 2019" document referred to above.

The DCC proposes that the Town Clerk's office should absorb some of the Administrative Assistant's Deer Hunt tasks, and that the Town Administrator's office should continue to absorb handling the CORI checks. This proposal still costs the town monies and takes valuable time away from the normally scheduled tasks of the Town Clerk's office and the Town Administrator's office for what is a pilot program. Is this budget planning a case of robbing Peter to pay Paul?

Most of the ConsCom Administrative Assistant's tasks are proposed to be handled by volunteer DCC members. However, when the DCC Chair asked for volunteers at the June 25 DCC Meeting, no one volunteered. How could they? The time commitment for them is an unknown. And it is inconceivable that the Administrative Assistant will not be spending valuable time tutoring any DCC member who may come forward to volunteer.

Finally, the possibility of the DCC being able to take over the ConsCom Administrative Assistant's tasks is tenuous in the first place as they are neophytes compared to the Administrative Assistant. It is even less possible since key people have resigned from the Deer Control Committee, and there will eventually be 3 new, novice committee members replacing experienced members. There will be a substantial learning curve on how to be a DCC member.

Summary

It is inevitable that if a non-essential 2020 hunt is authorized, the town of Carlisle will be paying a great deal for the hunt as they did in 2018 and 2019 – both in monies and time of town workers pulled away from their necessary essential tasks.

1) Carlisle will be paying for all the time the ConsCom Administrative Assistant will need to train any volunteer(s) from the Deer Control Committee who are willing to learn and assume her tasks. If there are no DCC volunteers, all the tasks fall back onto the ConsCom Administrative Assistant with associated charges and hours away from normally scheduled tasks. Gone is the "free" to the town hunt.

2) The DCC cannot zero the hours for the ConsCom Administrative Assistant as someone from that office still needs some time to process, manage, and keep records. DCC members are temporary.

3) Carlisle will be paying for the Town Clerk's office to assist and absorb some of the work. This will also take hours away from time on their normally scheduled tasks.

4) Carlisle will continue to be paying for the Town Administrator's work of doing the CORI checks. This will also take away from time on his normally scheduled tasks.

Given all the above, the argument that there should be a Deer Bow Hunt because the DCC worked so hard would not be logical even if there was no Covid-19. But the town is in the era of Covid-19 with its concomitant uncertainties. At this time of great financial impact to the citizens and workers of Carlisle, the town should be tightening its belts and making cuts of non-essential programs such as the Deer Bow Hunt. Any monies saved should be used for the benefit of Carlisle employees and residents, not for a program that the ConsCom liaison to the DCC refers to as “manifestly inadequate.” (ConsCom Minutes, 5/14/20)

Respectfully,

Jeannie Geneczko
898 Maple Street

Deer Control Committee Administrative Support 2019

Document Management:

- Receive, archive, facilitate web posting for the following as appropriate: Meeting Agendas, Meeting Packets, Meeting Minutes, Public Input (redact as appropriate), Committee Charter, Bow Hunting Regulations and Application (draft and final versions upon BOS approval)

Applications:

- Receive applications; review for completeness
- Enter into Deer Hunting shared database
- Contact applicants re deficiencies; follow up as needed; update database as pending documents are received
- CORI Request Forms: submit to Tim Goddard for processing; submit those returned with results to Chief of Police for review*
- Waitlist: update shared database; inform applicants of wait status

Financials:

- Facilitate establishment of 53e.5 Revolving Account through Town Accountant (BOS approval)
- Deposit application fees
- Process requests for reimbursement of expenses and Deer Agent stipend
- Maintain spreadsheet of income/expenses (rollover account), reconcile with MUNIS report annually

Permits:

- Request Carlisle Transfer Station stickers from DPW; pickup at CPD
- Print/assemble (vehicle card, wallet I.D., tree stand sticker)
- Contact hunters via email when permits are available; coordinate pickup at town hall
- Crossbow License Endorsement*

Communication:

- Communicate with Deer Comm Chair and Deer Agent as needed
- Email: Establish alias account; monitor; respond and/or forward as appropriate
- Receive and respond to public inquiries (phone calls/emails/office visits)
- Receive and respond to hunter inquiries/submittal requirements/general program information

*Process /requirements to be reviewed and revised as determined for 2020 season

Appendix A: Budget

July 11, 2020

Fall 2020 Carlisle Bow Hunt Projected Budget

Direct Expense

Supplies/signage	\$150	
Stipend – Deer Agent	\$300	
TOTAL Expense		\$450

Income

18 permits @ \$30	\$540	
TOTAL Income		\$540

Notes:

1. As for all other town committees, the DCC meetings and minutes will be posted by Town Hall staff.
2. As for other town committees with fees, the bow hunter processing fee will be deposited by Town Hall staff and invoices will be submitted by the DCC for payment by Town Hall staff.
3. Any needed CORI checks will be done by the Town Administrator.

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Mike Hanauer <mghanauer@yahoo.com>

To: Luke Ascolillo <luke.ascolillo@comcast.net>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Barney Arnold <barney4carlisle@gmail.com>; alewis@carlislema.gov <alewis@carlislema.gov>; Dmodel@tritonsys.com <dmodel@tritonsys.com>

Cc: Mike Hanauer <mghanauer@yahoo.com>; Tim Goddard <tgoddard@carlislema.gov>

Sent: Monday, July 27, 2020, 08:43:03 AM EDT

Subject: Carlisle Deer Hunt

Hi Luke, Kate, Barney, Alan and David,

Attached is a letter on the Deer Hunt which some of you may have seen and some of you likely have not.

As I note in the letter, I strongly believe the science as well as the situation in Carlisle clearly shows that the hunt is not only unwarranted, it is also not in the best interest of our residents.

Thanks so much for your work, dedication and consideration.

[Tim: please forward Zoom information for the 7/28 BoS meeting. Thanks]

Mike Hanauer
200 Long Ridge Road

~Mike

PLEASE STOP, DO NOT EXTEND, DEER HUNTING ON PUBLIC LANDS IN CARLISLE

May 12, 2020

Dear Carlisle Board of Selectpersons:

I have lived at the end of Long Ridge Road on the Davis Corridor for 19 years. My yard and home abuts the corridor with a view of the Blood Farm trail. For the past two years hunters have parked nearly every day near the end of my driveway during autumn. I am a firsthand witness to the reality of the situation.

Since the 2019 hunt ended, I have not seen even one deer on or around my property in spite of having shrubs they have enjoyed. Previously, I saw them 2 to 3 times per week.

Given this plus evidence previously presented:

1. Deer are an insignificant cause of Lyme disease.
2. Understory, no matter what is done, is unlikely to ever "recover" in a mature forest.
3. There is no meaningful evidence that there is a significant deer overpopulation.
4. Many Carlisle residents are being deprived of nature since significantly fewer hikers and walkers venture into the woods during the hunt despite "assurances" of safety. Yes, I can see this for myself by looking out my window at the trail.
5. Hunting season coincides with the ideal time to be in our conservation lands. The deer are not a problem, but the hunt is.
6. I used to lead autumn hikes. For the last two years, interest in such hikes has fallen greatly because of safety concerns and because of an eerie sense of hunters looking down at you from undisclosed locations.
7. With COVID-19 and social distancing likely to continue in some form, time in nature becomes still more important. We should do everything possible to promote safe enjoyment of our woods.
8. Abutters and neighbors, such as myself, are inconvenienced virtually every day by added traffic and cars parked on the roads for long periods.
9. Residents who wish to "protect" their flowers from being nibbled have many other options they can personally take. This is not a town responsibility.
10. The hunting causes costs, risks and inconveniences to the town and its residents with very little evidence of material benefit. Most of the hunters are not even Carlisle residents.

The evidence really is clear from last year's hunting season, let alone the possibility of extending it in some manner for 2020, that the hunt is more a gift to hunters than a benefit for Carlisle residents or our natural world.

Please end the hunt. It is just plain unjustified.

Thank You.

Michael Hanauer
200 Long Ridge Road
978-318-1980
MGHanauer@yahoo.com

From: Beth Maloney <bethmaloney3@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:44 PM
To: Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Nathan Brown <nathanincarlisle@gmail.com>
Cc: Ryan Comcast <rcdoos@comcast.net>
Subject: Re: Opposed to Bow Hunting in Carlisle

To the Board of Selectmen:

The facts show that bow hunting is not an effective method to address a problem in Carlisle that is not scientifically proven to exist adding unnecessary risk and liability to the town. Fear of deer hunting is not the issue. A "Deer Committee" made up of hunters and pro-hunting individuals cannot provide unbiased guidance and, from the opposition voiced by Carlisle citizens at several meetings, does not represent the majority opinion.

We oppose bow hunting on Carlisle town land.

Beth Maloney
Ryan Cardoos
3 Oak Knoll Road

On Fri, Jun 5, 2020 at 5:57 PM Beth Maloney <bethmaloney3@gmail.com> wrote:
To the Board of Selectmen:

The facts show that bow hunting is not an effective method to address a problem in Carlisle that has not even been proven to exist adding unnecessary risk and liability to the town. We oppose bow hunting on Carlisle town land.

Beth Maloney
Ryan Cardoos
3 Oak Knoll Road

From: debjancek <debjancek@aol.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:28 PM
To: Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>
Subject: Against deer hunt

Dear Luke.

I am writing to ask that you vote against allowing a deer hunt, especially this year. More people are home due to the virus and are using the trails. There are preventive measures we take to avoid tick bites.

Thank you for your consideration.

Deborah Jancek

From: Beth Maloney <bethmaloney3@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 4:44 PM

To: Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Nathan Brown <nathanincarlisle@gmail.com>

Cc: Ryan Comcast <rcdoos@comcast.net>

Subject: Re: Opposed to Bow Hunting in Carlisle

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We oppose bow hunting on Carlisle town land.

Beth Maloney
Ryan Cardoos
3 Oak Knoll Road

From: Raylon Yow <rmyow@hotmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2020 2:15 PM

To: barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Dmodel@tritonsys.com

Subject: bow-hunt

The Carlisle Board of Selectmen,

Please do not allow a cruel deer bow-hunt to be held on town land this fall or ever.

Ray

From: Camelia Rosca <camelia@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, July 25, 2020 8:09 AM

To: barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>; Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; lascolillo@carlislema.gov; dmodel@carlislema.gov; Jennifer Gibbons <jgibbons@carlislema.gov>; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>

Subject: Stop bow deer hunting on public land

Dear Board of Selectmen,

I am writing once again to urge you to stop bow deer hunting on Carlisle public land. It has become clear to me and to many other Carlisle residents that:

A. The DCC's assertion that the deer hunt solves the "understory problem" is fallacious for two reasons: a) the "understory problem" has not been proven by disinterested parties and b) even if we had this hypothetical problem, deer experts have pointed out that bow deer hunting does not solve the depletion of the understory.

B. Experts have noted that the transmission of Lyme disease is related to the number of small mammals, not to the number of deer.

C. Many residents are reluctant to use the public land trails because of the bow deer hunt.

D. Bow deer hunting is cruel. Many of the deer do not die immediately and they run hurt and bleeding, sometimes for days. It can take up to two weeks for a deer to die, often from painful infections of the wound.

I believe that in a town like Carlisle it is not too much to expect that the Board of Selectmen listens to science and not to special interest groups, in this case the small group of recreational deer hunters.

Please add my letter to the July 28, 2020 BOS Meeting package.

Best regards,

Camelia Rosca
Brook St.

PS. Ms. Gibbons, not all BOS members' email addresses are available online. Would you please forward this email to those whose email addresses are not publicly available? Thank you.

- Should one get caught up in whitewashed terms like “harvesting” and abstractions like population control, I would like to be crystal clear what voting to continue the hunt really means:



- References to deer being a primary vector in Lyme disease are outdated. It is now widely accepted that there is no direct correlation between deer population and potential human infection. Deer possess an enzyme which prevents them from getting Lyme disease. Hence, they are not a factor in passing the disease on to uninfected ticks. Recent studies suggest deer might even provide a diluting effect which protects us by reducing the possibility of a tick that bites us being infected. Also, logic would dictate that a tick on a deer is one less tick on a human.
- Further, there is the question of fiscal cost and liability to the town. The potential liability to the town seems to be dismissed. Will the requirement for hunters to obtain an antlerless deer permit expose the town to greater liability? With the lack of transparency about the program's cost, one can only estimate the cost so far to be over \$12,000 (based on requested compensation for administrative hours, supplies, etc). At the outset, there was mention that this program would not cost the town anything. Now these costs are deemed start-up costs. Again, the DCC is stating that a 2020 hunt would not cost the town anything and are presenting an unrealistic budget. With the difficulty of filling member positions (last DCC meeting had only 4 members out of 7 positions), who will be taking over all the administrative tasks as a volunteer? If the work isn't done by volunteers, will it once again become the responsibility of a paid administrator? Where will that money come from? With serious belt tightening in all departments, now more than ever unessential spending should be curtailed.
- Hunting on town land is a special interest project for a very small minority and does not reflect the best interests of the town residents as a whole. Besides, Carlisle already has hunting in Great Meadows and on private land. No hunter is being deprived of their sport in town. Further, the great majority of Carlisle deer killed already come from the private land and Great Meadows hunting.
- Especially during these COVID times, as much space as possible should be made available for the safe enjoyment by ALL Carlisle residents. It has been noted that there is a substantial increase of town land use during the pandemic. In fact, Cons Com just recently had a discussion whether they should implement one-way trails.
- There is also the question of fear - not the primary reason for opposition, by the way, as is misleadingly stated by the DCC. So many residents who pay for the acquisition and maintenance of town lands through taxes are not comfortable or simply avoid using the trails during the hunt. This is not right.
- It should be pointed out that some members of Cons Com have specifically stated that they do not support continuing the hunt as is. And technically, all town committee letters of support for 2020 are based on a proposal for an expanded hunt, not a status quo one now being proposed.
- In past meetings, members of the BOS, Cons Com and even the DCC have admitted that the hunt on town land has not been successful in regard to the stated objective of reducing the deer herd. Yet, the DCC is proposing a non-expanded hunt for 2020 out of a fear of losing momentum (as was stated at a DCC meeting). With no town specific baseline established, the DCC is now stating that killing three deer will maintain Carlisle's deer population or even possibly reduce it. Please forgive the personal interjection, but really? Killing three does will do the trick?
- The pilot program has proven to be a failure. It has been mentioned on a number of occasions that the DCC has put a lot of time and effort into the program. This is no

reason to continue the failed program. The effort was made, the pilot hunts implemented, the program proved unsuccessful. The time and resources of the DCC members would be far more beneficially spent on the committees they respectively represent.

- It makes no sense to have an ineffective status quo hunt in 2020, especially during heightened need for social distancing and outdoor space for all. Suspending the hunt for 2020 will solve so many problems. The town will not be liable; there will be no added fiscal cost; there will be no quality of life cost to residents; and faith in our town leadership can be maintained when it is shown that the best interest of all residents is placed before the special interest of a few.

I will get personal here: yes, the images I've included above are distressing - but this is the reality of what is being advocated. I expect some of you may rather not have seen them. I certainly would rather not have seen them. And I wish I had not seen the deer with an arrow hanging out of it hobbling across my back yard a couple of winters ago, leaving a trail of blood in the snow. I am extremely upset that I am forced to "support" such cruelty through my tax dollars. It distresses me even more that this cruelty on town land has NO effect on controlling the town deer herd yet it is still being pushed. While scientifically unsubstantiated reasons and pro hunting organization support have been presented to justify the hunt, town land has been hijacked (as another resident so aptly put it) for the recreation of a few. The agenda of a few individuals in positions of influence is taking precedence over the greater needs of the town and its residents. There is no true justification to have the hunt in 2020. In fact, it is time for this failed pilot program to end altogether. There are far more important and pressing needs on which to focus precious time, energy and funds.

Thank you for your time.

Christina Christodouloupoulos

From: Town Hall
Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 9:34 AM
To: Luke Ascolillo (luke.ascolillo@comcast.net) <luke.ascolillo@comcast.net>
Subject: FW: Comments prior to your upcoming decision on the 2020 deer hunt

From: Donald Allen <donalddcallen@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 23, 2020 10:53 AM
To: barney4carlisle@gmail.com; Town Hall <townhall@carlislema.gov>; Alan Lewis <alewis@carlislema.gov>; David Model <DModel@tritonsys.com>; Kate Reid <kreid@carlislema.gov>
Subject: Comments prior to your upcoming decision on the 2020 deer hunt

In preparation for your upcoming decision on the deer hunt, I would like to address some of the points made in the recently updated recommendation of the Deer Committee.

- I agree with the recommendation that the town land hunting question be decided by the town, either at Town Meeting or as a question on a town election ballot.
- In support of holding a 2020 hunt, which would most likely occur before a town decision and is therefore questionable, the Deer Committee writes: *"The program is necessary to curtail the growth of the deer overpopulation problem. Our calculations indicate that the program run these past two years, although relatively small, was the difference between the population increasing and the population very slightly decreasing or holding steady. As such, continuing the hunt should prevent the problem from getting worse in the mean-time."* This is simply not correct.
 - The Deer Committee does not know that we have a deer overpopulation problem or more importantly, that our forests are suffering ecological damage due to deer overpopulation. Neither has been established; asserting otherwise is false.
 - Their calculations are based on deer reproduction rates obtained from DFW given in Jonathan DeKock's paper "Quantifying Deer in Carlisle". Those reproduction rates are not applicable to suburban settings (they are much too small), where deer food is plentiful. I have done the same calculations using deer reproduction rates obtained from sources such as the CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (there are multiple references that support these rates, such as a paper from Texas A&M that I referred to in a previous message to you). The results show that the number of deer we must kill to "bend the curve" are completely out of reach of the bow-hunting program. See <http://tlhunt.herokuapp.com/> for the details.
- In the "MassWildlife Studies" section, the Deer Committee proposes a new study by DFW. DFW is an organization funded by revenues from hunting licenses and is demonstrably pro-hunting. Any study of the health of our forests must be done by people both qualified to make such an assessment and who are also completely unbiased.
- In the "Question" section, the Deer Committee states: *"The Deer Control Committee understands the main concern raised by the public is related (to) the feeling of safety while using the trails for recreation."* It is true that safety was a prominent concern among those who spoke at the 6/9 BOS meeting. But there was also concern, both spoken and written in the "chat", that holding these hunts ignores what the science is telling us. This concern also came up in the comments offered by signatories of our [change.org](https://www.change.org) petition opposing the hunts.

The aforementioned [change.org](https://www.change.org) petition now has 246 Carlisle signatories.

It appears that the Lyme Disease issue has come up again among those who favor the hunts, despite having been repeatedly debunked by the research. I hope the following will be helpful:

- "Not a primary reason to manage the deer herd." -- Carlisle Deer Committee; February 2, 2018
- "Reduction in risk of Lyme Disease should not be considered the major rationale for the Carlisle deer hunt." - Carlisle Lyme Disease Subcommittee; April 1, 2019
- "There is insufficient evidence to recommend deer population reduction as a Lyme disease prevention measure, except in specific ecological circumstances." - Centers for Disease Control; July 15, 2015 ("specific ecological circumstances" refers to islands)
- A book on Lyme disease by leading Lyme disease expert Richard Ostfeld confirms that human risk of exposure to Lyme disease is correlated with the abundance of immature (rodent) hosts and their food resources, not deer numbers (Ostfeld et al, 2006, 2011).

Lastly, a summary of reasons for voting against the 2020 town land deer hunt:

- The problem that has been identified by the Board as the reason for the deer hunts, damage to our forests by deer, has not been established. The MA Dept of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) 2016 "study" was completely inadequate. See <http://tlhunt.herokuapp.com/> for the details.
- All forms of hunting, of which bow-hunting is the most difficult, have failed to control deer populations in MA.
 - This is especially the case in the eastern MA suburbs, where our residential plantings provide large amounts of deer food. The abundance of food makes larger deer herds possible (the "biological carrying capacity" is increased).
 - Experts, such as Dr. Allen Rutberg of Tufts University, state that bow-hunts on suburban public lands are recreational and will not control deer problems.
 - The specifics of why hunting is ineffective in suburbia are somewhat complex and I will not attempt to review them here, as we have discussed some of them previously, as did Dr. Rutberg in his Carlisle talk last November. All of that information is available on my website.
- Townspeople are afraid to use the trails in the areas being hunted. This is a particularly acute issue during the COVID-19 pandemic, when so many people have been house-bound and would like to be outdoors safely in the fall.
- There are questions about the financial aspects of administering the deer hunts that have not been adequately addressed.
- Bow-hunting is inhumane, with many of the deer struck but not killed immediately. They die a slow death from infection and blood loss. I have previously cited supporting research on this question.
- The current program does not include metrics. Metrics are standard engineering practice, providing essential feedback that your solution is solving your problem. Other towns, such as Weston, whose example has been cited in discussion about this issue, also omit this essential component. It is not sufficient to report on the number of deer killed, as they do and we do. Killing deer is not the same as controlling deer populations. (And controlling deer populations is only necessary if you know that deer overpopulation is truly an issue.)
- The proposal by the Deer Committee to take this question to the town is a fair and sensible way of resolving this very divisive issue. It would be consistent with the spirit of this good proposal to suspend any further hunting until both sides have had time to make their case to the town and the town renders its decision.

I would like to close by saying that I think I can speak for just about everyone in opposition to the current program that we are not opposed to correcting ecological problems, especially those of our own making, where we can intervene in a way that makes solid scientific sense (including recognizing what we don't know), that gets at the root cause of the problem, and where the intervention adheres to good engineering practice. Our objection is to the current program. We advocate

- that the problem, if there is one, be identified by qualified and unbiased people
- remedies, if needed, selected that the research gives a reasonable chance of accomplishing our goal
- metrics -- the negative feedback that tells us whether or not our remedies are working, so that we can make intelligent mid-course corrections.

Don Allen
