

**TOWN OF HARVARD  
DEER MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES  
ZOOM MINUTES 6:30-7:15pm  
Thursday October 1, 2020**

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**New Business:**

**-Meet and greet General Biologist at MassWildlife Field Headquarters, Susan McCarthy and MassWildlife Biologist Chalis Bird.**

**Sue and Chalis informed us that David Stainbrook will be leaving MassWildlife for a position in PA. They predicted it would take in the range of a year to find his permanent replacement.**

**Discuss Fall hunt**

**-Distribution of hunters**

**Bob recommended that for our one Zone 10 site that we open it up for Harvard hunters only until the rest of the season opens in Zone 9 – and then it is open to all hunters that are in the program. Bob reported stands are in place and hunters are loading up on antlerless tags.**

**Jason: One hunter had a baby and may not be in for the opening.**

**Bob: Less people may be to our benefit.**

**Paul: Limited is better**

**Bob introduced Davida Bagatelle of the Harvard Disabilities Commission regarding accommodation for disabled hunter. Asked that we speak in general terms– related to hunter accommodations.**

**Davida: The Commission is an advisory board which started in June. Programmatic access is required under the law. Ask what is reasonable and safe under the program. Title 2 accommodations under the law. Someone with a disability that wants to participate should get equal opportunity to participate under special conditions. Something you and ADA coordinator (Tim Bragan) should work together with the individual and be granted accommodation. Accommodations need to be “reasonable, acceptable and safe.”**

**Ben: Thank you – I did not have this information when we discussed previously.**

**Jason: You mentioned safety. There are some question marks, especially considering crossbow will be used. The tight time frame is a concern.**

**Davida: I have read about crossbows. Suggest look into websites. Any new program – as you craft – account for need to consider disabilities and accommodation, ADA and Title II compliance.**

The listing of matters are those reasonably anticipated by the chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items listed may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

**Bob: What role do we have? Do we provide a recommendation for an accommodation – or disabled person talk to them?**

**David: Any request in Tim's Direction w/disabilities Commission.**

**Bob: Susan, Chalis, do you see a lot of Crossbow permits?**

**Susan: Yes:**

**Chalis: One can hunt from a Crossbow in a chair-blind. All the skills are taught in the safety class – know your target.**

**Susan: I am the coordinator for the paraplegic hunt – they are all in chairs. It is just as safe an activity as other bow hunting. Think about a plan to help disabled hunters retrieve deer.**

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**Jason discussed parking map.**

**Bob: Grateful for very easy to follow designated spots for parking.**

**Jason: Added satellite spots due to concern about crowding.**

**Barret 12 spaces**

**Damon Stephenson 9**

**Perini 5**

**Rodriguez 8**

**Bob: Send link to hunters**

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**Rule related to deer recovery.**

**Jason: is it all town land that deer can be pursued on?**

**Bob: Just town conservation land.**

**Bob asked MassWildlife about pursuit on to unposted lands. Reply: Legal to do if not conspicuously posted.**

**Bob: If hunters are leaving Conservation land we added to the Rules that they are to contact local police and Env Police.**

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**Bob asked about additions to the Update for ConCom.**

**Bob thanked Jason for article for press.**

**Approved draft minutes.**

**Concluded meeting 7:14**

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