

**TOWN OF HARVARD
DEER MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
ZOOM MEETING**

Wednesday 7:00pm – 8:00 PM Sept 15, 2021

Bob Douglas DMS Chair
Tom Cotton, DMS
Joe Pulido, DMS Range Manager

Don Osmer Volunteer
Greg Arthur Volunteer

Martin Feehan – Massachusetts State Deer Biologist

Eve Wittenberg
Daniel Tracey

Bob introduced DMS members, volunteers, and Dr. Feehan.

Bob announced that all meetings are available on Harvard TV and made a recommendation of watching the David Stainbrook meeting May 23; and the meetings with Robert Wernerehl State Botanist, and Michelle Grzenda. Also library of deer management available on the Town Website.

Range master Pulido went over the rules of stewardship, engagement, hunter communication, hunter's log.

Permission to hunt is revocable.

No screw in steps.

Joe detailed parking areas.

Stands must be removed by Feb 1.

Orange must be worn once the Archery season overlaps other hunting seasons requiring orange be worn.

Baiting is not allowed.

Zone 10 Starts October 4th

Zone 9 Starts October 19th.

Hunters are assigned to specific properties.

You are hunting by special permission of the Town. You are an ambassador. Be polite to all hikers and people you meet. If confronted, don't engage. Walk away. Call the police.

If you find an unauthorized stand – do not remove it – contact DMS or Conservation Agent.

Contact Environmental police and DMS if you have difficulty retrieving a deer.

If you wish to donate to food bank, please contact DMS.

Please communicate with other program hunters on your property.

Let people know where you are. When you are expected to return.

Watch the weather.

Wear your safety harness.

Martin spoke on deer movements during the rut and hunt.

Snow or wind will slow the movement of deer.

Joe asked team if they had any questions – hearing none – he moved on to the next stage of the meeting.

Harvard Deer Management Hunting Rules can be found on the Town of Harvard website:

https://www.harvard-ma.gov/sites/g/files/vyhlif676/f/uploads/deer_management_program_rules_and_regulations_2021.pdf

Bob dismissed Hunters and Dr. Feehan.

Joe stated all hunters have been assigned sites and have passed qualifier.

Joe is looking to assign two properties due to hunter moving out of the area.

Bob: We may have spots open up throughout the season.

DMS will assign hunters for open spots based on their preference previously stated.

Bob: *“Peter, Eve, Daniel – do you have anything to say.”*

Eve Wittenberg: *“No thanks”* (56:05)

Minutes were brought to vote.

Tom Asked if there were any changes to the minutes, hearing none he moved to approve, seconded by Joe. July 29, 2021. Minutes approved by unanimous vote.

Tom asked if there are any modifications for August 5, 2021 minutes, then made motion to approve which was seconded by Joe, voted unanimously to approve.

Tom made motion to adjourn, seconded by Joe unanimously approved.

Bob declared meeting adjourned 8:01 PM.