

**TOWN OF HARVARD  
DEER MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES  
ZOOM MEETING 6:30pm – 7:30 pm  
Monday AUG 22, 2022**

**Committee members**

**Bob Douglas, Joe Pulido, Tom Cotton, Ben Urquhart, Paul Willard  
Don Osmer, David Pinard – Volunteer**

Bob gave the introduction.

All minutes are on website and videos can be found on Harvard TV.

Recommended Meetings with David Stainbrook State Deer Biologist and Robert Wernerehl, State Botanist.

Voted to approve May 11 Minutes – Corrections listed by Tom and Ben – Approved by group. Motion by Ben seconded by Paul. Unanimous.

Joe – 9 requests to join the program. Qual rounds done on June 22 and 25.  
7 applicants shot and qualified. Applicants screened for form and safety.

Ben had a question on crossbows – Bob: crossbows are allowed by the state for people with specific doctor documented disabilities. Some discussion on the different ranges of bow types – Joe and Bob to circle back on this for a future meeting.

Joe spoke on assignment of hunters. Hunters returning that have put time in the woods in previous hunts will have priority. Joe is working on September for assignment and has additional properties we may ask for from Commission. Bob: It's a meritocracy of assigning sites.

Bob: Are there are additional sites out there for consideration.

Joe: Prospect Hill and Holy Hill. Joe detailed new possible entry points.

Don: There are other access points and plenty of property.

Ben: Meets our criteria.

Paul: Agree. Prospect, maybe.

Tom: Large parcel trails are spread out. A couple hunters could disappear. There have been illegal stands on the property. Should be considered.

Bob called for vote – Unanimous.

Dan Tracy – Trail head does not matter – public would know that there is hunting. Its just the perception that there is hunting.

Joe showed map, and reported the area has deer sign. The second section to the east is further from dwellings.

Tom: Concerned about density – hesitant to recommend – even though there are some small pockets.

Ben: opposed – too tight. Question on map.

Bob: No consensus. No action on Holy Hill. (No objection raised)

Bob: Any other locations?

Joe: Three new properties I would like us to propose.

Bob: We will map and discuss at a future meeting.

Joe: Sprague property. There are huntable sections.

Paul: Hard to tell what land is what.

Bob: Our hunters have GPS handhelds.

Paul: Hard to tell what ownership.

Bob: I did the transects in the area. There is space. Tom could you present a map?

Tom: light green is field and swamp – excluded because may not be possible to hunt. It's a large parcel with enough separation.

Bob: Swamps can be a successful hunting ground and would not like to see it eliminated.

Commission was asked for consensus to revise map and bring up at a future date.

Bob will ask to be on the ConCom's agenda to advance two items (Prospect Hill and distance)

Meet next Monday – in one week. Assentation by Group.

Bob thanks John for joining.

John Iacomini: How many slots are there?

Joe: We have 13 slots. Last year 15 Hunters. 13 currently in program – We may add two more sets of hunters.

Joe: There is a preference for Town of Harvard employees and residents.

Bob asked Dan Tracey if he recalled the Zoom bomb that interrupted the meeting a while back.

Dan stated he did recall that. Bob had to close the meeting. Bob called Dan immediately following the meeting and got his comments – and had them added to the minutes.

Bob asked; “other than that one time that one time that you were unable to speak – do you recall not being able to ask a question or speak at a question?”

Not a lack of opportunity – but under a lot of pressure – not time to address questions.

“You always acknowledged questions from the outside – and were able to at least address what I was able to say quickly.”

There were some meetings where we had short meetings.

Bob: You believe that you have always had a chance to speak at our meetings, correct?

Dan: Well at least to make a brief comment, yes.

Motion to adjourn. Paul made motion; Joe seconded.