

MEETING NOTES

Deer Committee - Wednesday, September 21, 2016
6:30 P.M. – Galena City Hall, 101 Green Street

1. Call meeting to order - The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following individuals in attendance: John Cox (Chairperson), Beth Baranski, Carmen Ferguson, and Kirk Foecking.
2. Approve agenda – A motion to approve the agenda was made by Beth and seconded by Kirk. The motion carried.
3. Approve meeting notes from August meeting – A motion to approve the August 17th meeting notes as presented was made by Carmen and seconded by Kirk. The motion carried.
4. Presentation by Bob Buman to provide information on how the committee should consider assistance from local hunters to manage the deer population and other information related to dealing with deer within the city limits. - Bob explained that he met with a group of 4 avid bow and shotgun hunters that preferred to remain anonymous, and he is representing that group. He made the following points in his presentation:
 - Guns should not be used in the city.
 - The DNR can allow a sanctioned special hunt, issuing "nuisance permits" to hunters. Idea of City covering cost of nuisance permits.
 - The north and west parts of Galena are probably the problem areas.
 - A deer count is important - aerial with the Galena Territory Association or an infrared count at night.
 - Could drive the deer from inside the City to the outer limits where they could be hunted. DNR permission may be required. Public notification would be important. Careful coordination would be essential.
 - Recommends shotgun hunting only, rifles or pistols. Perhaps bowhunting.
 - Suggests allowing the harvest of does only for a special hunt.
 - There are hunters who want the deer meat and will pay for processing.
 - There are hunters who would work with the City on this, but wonders if landowners outside of the City will allow access to their land.
5. Comments from Citizens – Bill Fawell (617 Ridge St., Galena) feels it's important that the committee talk to someone who knows the woods. He feels the best time to cull the deer is the dead of winter because the deer bunch up and follow the same paths. Recommends using a feed station to draw the deer in. The deer could be viewed as an asset: people like to see them, and because they are tame here, Galena could be an ideal study area for Lyme disease.

6. Discussion of proceeding with a final report to the city council including changes, corrections and additions to the draft previously submitted to the committee members.
The committee discussed a reorganization of the draft report. Beth will reorganize the draft. Committee members are to send comments on the draft to each other.

7. Discussion by committee members of the proposed agenda for October meeting –
Bowhunters and farmers with land on the outskirts of the city will be invited.

8. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.