

HEW Meeting

July 13, 2012

In attendance:

Natalie Wolf, chair

Tom Muething, committee member

Ed Hattenbach, committee member

J.K. Byar, Mayor

Bill Doering, council

Scot Lahrmer, Village Manager

Chief Rich Wallace

Lt. Brian Blum

Gary Baldauf, City of Wyoming, Police Chief

Lynn Tetley, Manager, City of Wyoming

Josephine Rosenblum

Ronit Na'amati

E Goldman

Merrie Stillpass

Mark Levine

Jim Dempsey

Ronna Willis

Louis Katz

Tom Brown

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Natalie Wolf. The minutes of the previous meeting (June 27, 2012) were approved without corrections.

Chair Wolf opened the meeting by stating the procedure for the meeting. Prepared questions would be asked of guests Gary Baldauf and Lynn Tetley from the City of Wyoming. At the conclusion of the questions by Chairperson Wolf, all in attendance would be permitted to ask questions.

Lynn Tetley deferred to Chief Baldauf as she explained that the police are managing the move to establish a deer management policy in Wyoming. Wyoming Council was being asked to approve an Ordinance that would allow hunting within the City limits. History: Police have been monitoring deer in Wyoming since 2008. They initially noticed an increase in complaints by residents as well as an increase in deer vehicle accidents (DVA). In 2009 an infrared image analysis was done. 69 deer were counted within the Wyoming jurisdiction, 25 in outlying areas. This deer count cost \$5000. In 2010 the police started collecting specific information into a deer database. Data was requested from residents and the community was blanketed for resident feedback. (Wyoming reaches residents by an online newsletter, website, and two regularly mailed newsletters). The Wyoming police reached out to Indian Hill and Mariemont for information on their program already in place and discovered bow hunting was being done in other communities.

In 2011 two public feedback sessions were held in an “open house” format. It was decided that the program should be “cost neutral.”

Opinions were sought in these areas:

Why not do nothing? Estimates of \$1000s in property damage already.

Yard fencing and repellents? might only work for small deer populations.

Trap and Transfer? ODNR won't allow; cost prohibitive.

Pros and Cons of contraceptives? Not allowed in Ohio; expensive

Wyoming is considering allowing regulated bow hunting on private property, specifically the Wyoming Golf Course. Hunting would only be allowed one day/week. The golf course is Wyoming's largest open space at 60-70 acres.

There is not enough contiguous public property in Wyoming to hunt on public property.

Wyoming is using 10-15 deer/square mile as the ideal for the city. Rural areas are suggested at 20-25 deer/square mile.

*Wyoming's intent is a regulated bow-hunting program on designated property. Only on the golf course when the course is closed. They will limit deer culled to 20.

Staff time involved in tracking complaints related to deer incidents and gathering data is no different than tracking other complaints.

Wyoming annual accidents: 90; 7 related to deer. Over 5 years, 30 total DVAs reported in Wyoming.

Amberley recorded 100 total mvas; DVAs for last 5 years were: 10, 11, 6, 16, 13

Wyoming has received 250 nuisance complaints related to deer in the last 2 years.

Wyoming demographics: Under 3 square miles, 3500 households, can sustain about 45 deer using 10-15/sq mile.

Wyoming's intent is to establish a healthy deer population and not to eradicate all deer issues.

Wyoming would allow hunters in deer stands, officers would help track the deer.

Resident comments:

Worst season for deer. Repellents don't work. Deer are aggressive

Feels endangered. Stopped planting anything

Mature doe has 2-3 babies therefore 20 deer won't be enough

Relationship between coyote and deer?

An oil-based repellent has been reported to work well.