



## VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST DEER MANAGEMENT AD-HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, June 23, 2020 – 7:30 PM  
Village Hall – 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL 60305  
Community Room

### AGENDA

Physical attendance at this public meeting is limited to 10 individuals, with Committee members and staff having priority over members of the public. Public comments and any responses will be read into the public meeting record. You may submit your public comments via email in advance of the meeting to: Sara Phyfer at [sphyfer@vrf.us](mailto:sphyfer@vrf.us). You may listen to the meeting by participating in a telephone conference call as follows, dial-in number: 312-626-6799 with meeting ID: 894 6380 5277. If you would like to participate over the phone, please email [sphyfer@vrf.us](mailto:sphyfer@vrf.us) by 5:00 PM on June 22, 2020. **THAT SAID, PLEASE NOTE THAT THE GOAL IS TO CONDUCT THE MEETING VIRTUALLY, SO ONLY COME TO VILLAGE HALL FOR THE MEETING IF YOU DO NOT HAVE THE CAPABILITY OF PARTICIPATING VIRTUALLY.**

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes
4. Reports from Subcommittees
5. Old Business
  - a. Consideration for Approval of the River Forest Deer Questionnaire
6. New Business
  - a. Discussion and Consideration for Approval of Questionnaire Communication Methods
7. Next Meeting
8. Adjournment

**VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST  
DEER MANAGEMENT AD HOC COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, June 16, 2020**

A regular meeting of the Village of River Forest Deer Management Ad Hoc Committee was held on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 7:30 p.m. in the Community Room of Village Hall, 400 Park Avenue – River Forest, IL.

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. Upon roll call, the following persons were:

Present: Chairperson Tom Cargie, Laurie Gillard, Katharine Christmas, John Roeger, Cathleen Hughes (*left the meeting at 9:14*), Dan Hollenbach, Joel Lueking, Julie Armstrong, Dawn Mizgala, Marta Kozbur, Ingrid Liu, Annette Madden

Absent: John Flynn, Ron Lemar

Also Present: Management Analyst Sara Phyfer

**2. APPROVAL OF ELECTRONIC PARTICIPATION**

Management Analyst Phyfer stated that on Friday, June 12, 2020 Governor Pritzker signed a law which allows public bodies to conduct remote meetings under certain conditions, permanently amending the Open Meetings Act. She stated that going forward, approval of electronic participation is no longer necessary and that all votes must be roll call votes.

**3. APPROVAL OF RULES FOR PUBLIC COMMENT BEFORE THE COMMITTEE**

Ms. Hughes made a motion, seconded by Mr. Roeger, to approve the Rules for Public Comment.

Roll call:

Ayes: Chairperson Tom Cargie, Laurie Gillard, John Roeger, Cathleen Hughes, Dan Hollenbach, Joel Lueking, Julie Armstrong, Dawn Mizgala, Ingrid Liu

Absent: John Flynn, Ron Lemar

Nays: Annette Madden, Katharine Christmas, Marta Kozbur

Motion Passes.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mary Vanker, 1234 Monroe. Ms. Vanker commented about materials posted on the Village website from the Cook County Forest Preserves, and she urged the Committee members to listen to the January 13, 2020 Village Board of Trustees meeting.

Trustee Cargie stated the documents Ms. Vanker is referring to have been on the Village's website since January.

## 5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Lueking made a motion, seconded by Ms. Hughes, to approve the June 9, 2020 meeting minutes.

Ms. Gillard stated the meetings incorrectly reflect the meeting time as 7:00 instead of 7:30.

Roll call:

Ayes: Chairperson Tom Cargie, Laurie Gillard, John Roeger, Cathleen Hughes, Dan Hollenbach, Joel Lueking, Julie Armstrong, Dawn Mizgala, Ingrid Liu, Annette Madden, Katharine Christmas, Marta Kozbur

Absent: John Flynn, Ron Lemar

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

## 6. REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Chairperson Cargie clarified his previous statements about the intergovernmental agreement with the Forest Preserves. He stated there are some fixed costs but that there are also variable costs based on the number of deer involved, such as butchering the meat. The Committee reached a consensus to have the Communication Subcommittee meet and discuss how to lay out a Village webpage related to the Committee's activities.

## 7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Continued Discussion and Consideration for Approval of the River Forest Deer Questionnaire

The Committee discussed the questionnaire at length. There was a consensus that Tim Preuss' suggestions limited the focus of the questionnaire too much to property damage. There was consensus to accept the objective in the Survey Subcommittee's draft.

The Committee discussed the merits of Question 3 ("How do you feel about deer?") on the Survey Subcommittee's draft.

Ms. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Ms. Christmas to keep Question 3 in the questionnaire.

Roll call:

Ayes: Annette Madden, Ingrid Lui, Katharine Christmas, Laurie Gillard, Julie Armstrong, Marta Kozbur

Absent: John Flynn, Ron Lemar

Nays: Chairperson Tom Cargie, Dan Hollenbach, Joel Lueking, Dawn Mizgala, Cathleen Hughes, John Roeger

Motion Fails.

The Committee continued discussing the remaining questions and reached a consensus to add “harm to pets” to questions asking about deer concerns and to accept Tim Preuss’ Question 7, while rearranging the order of some questions to include it.

Mr. Hollenbach made a motion, seconded by Ms. Mizgala to substitute Tim Preuss’ question “How do you feel about the current numbers of deer in your neighborhood?” for the Committee’s Question 3 “How do you feel about deer?”

Roll call:

Ayes: Chairperson Tom Cargie, Laurie Gillard, John Roeger, Cathleen Hughes, Dan Hollenbach, Joel Lueking, Julie Armstrong, Dawn Mizgala, Annette Madden, Katharine Christmas

Absent: John Flynn, Ron Lemar

Nays: Ingrid Lui, Marta Kozbur

Motion Passes.

The Committee discussed the questions related to acceptable solutions to deer conflict management programs and committing public funds towards a culling program, and they ultimately reached a consensus to blend two questions together. The Committee reached a consensus to add the underlined portion to the question “What kind of deer conflict management program is acceptable to you (with use of public funds)?” and to remove the question “Do you believe the Village of River Forest should take action on resolving deer conflicts in the Village of River Forest?”

Trustee Cargie stated that next week the Committee would meet to consider for approval the final version of the questionnaire and to discuss communication options. He reminded the Committee they would be creating a post card to mail to all the households in the Village.

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **9. NEXT MEETING**

The Committee members came to a consensus to hold the next meeting on Tuesday, June 23 at 7:30 p.m.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Armstrong made a motion, seconded by Ms. Liu to adjourn the Deer Management Ad Hoc Committee meeting at 9:37 p.m.

Roll call:

Deer Management Ad Hoc Committee Meeting June 16, 2020

Ayes: Chairperson Tom Cargie, Laurie Gillard, Katharine Christmas, John Roeger, Dan Hollenbach, Joel Lueking, Julie Armstrong, Dawn Mizgala, Marta Kozbur, Ingrid Liu, Annette Madden

Absent: John Flynn, Cathleen Hughes, Ron Lemar

Nays: None

Motion Passes.

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Sara Phyfer, Secretary

DRAFT

## Village of River Forest Deer Questionnaire

**Questionnaire Objective:** The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather River Forest residents' point of view on the deer population and its impacts on the community. This questionnaire will help guide the RF Deer Committee on making recommendations to next steps and is for information gathering purposes only.

- 1) Do you live in River Forest and are you at least 18 years of age? Yes or No.
  - If No, please do not complete the questionnaire.
  - If Yes, maximum of two respondents per household. Or all household members 18 and older?
  
- 2) What is your address?
  
- 3) Does the Village have your permission to contact you again in the future about this matter? If so, please include your email address here: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 4) In the past 12 months, have you seen deer **on your property**?
  - a) Frequently (once a week or more), during \_\_\_\_ (winter/spring/summer/fall) season
  - b) Frequently (once a week or more), all year long
  - c) Occasionally (once a month or more), during \_\_\_\_ (winter/spring/summer/fall) season
  - d) Occasionally (once a month or more), all year long
  - e) Rarely (only a couple times a year)
  - f) NeverOn average, how many deer do you see on your property per occurrence? \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 5) In the past 12 months, have you seen deer within River Forest **outside of your property**?
  - a) Frequently (once a week or more), during \_\_\_\_ (winter/spring/summer/fall) season
  - b) Frequently (once a week or more), all year long
  - c) Occasionally (once a month or more), during \_\_\_\_ (winter/spring/summer/fall) season
  - d) Occasionally (once a month or more), all year long
  - e) Rarely (only a couple times a year)
  - f) Never
  - g) Please provide some detail regarding where in RF you've seen the deer, i.e. street intersection or park: \_\_\_\_\_
  
- 6) Are you experiencing any deer issues currently? If No, please skip down to Question 11  
\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No
  
- 7) What deer-related issues have you experienced in the last 12 months?
  - a) Lyme disease and tick-borne infections
  - b) Deer-auto collision or near miss/dangerous distraction
  - c) Damage to vegetable gardens / flowers / lawn / shrubs / plants

- d) Human-habituated "too tame" deer
- e) Neighbor feeding deer and attracting them to my yard
- f) Harm to pets
- g) Feces in yard
- h) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

8) Have you taken any actions to alleviate the deer issues?

Yes\_\_ No\_\_

9) What actions have you taken? (check all that apply and indicate how successful the action was on a 1-5 scale—with 1 being ineffective and 5 being highly effective)

- a) \_\_Tolerance / no action
- b) \_\_Switched to planting deer-resistant flower/ plant varieties
- c) \_\_Used fencing / netting / barriers
- d) \_\_Used repellents
- e) \_\_Using scare tactics
- f) \_\_Other: \_\_\_\_\_

10) Rate the below potential deer concerns below by using a scale of 0-5 (0 meaning no importance and 5 meaning very important):

- a) Lyme disease and tick-borne infections \_\_\_\_
- b) Deer-auto collision or near miss/dangerous distraction \_\_\_\_
- c) Damage to vegetable gardens / flowers / lawn / shrubs /plants \_\_\_\_
- d) Human-habituated "too tame" deer \_\_\_\_
- e) Neighbor feeding deer and attracting them to my yard \_\_\_\_
- f) Harm to pets
- g) Feces in yard \_\_\_\_
- h) Other: \_\_\_\_\_

11) If you have had property damage, can you share if your experience was one of the following?

- a) Very acceptable
- b) Acceptable
- c) No opinion
- d) Unacceptable
- e) Very unacceptable

12) What kind of deer conflict management program is acceptable to you (with use of public funds)?

- a) Do nothing and leave deer alone
- b) Prefer non-lethal (no killing of deer) options only (i.e. more traffic signs, education)
- c) Prefer lethal (killing of deer via professional sharpshooting) option only
- d) Prefer a combination of both options above for managing issues
- e) No opinion/ do not care
- f) Other option (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

13) How do you feel about the current numbers of deer in your neighborhood?

- a) Would like to see many more deer
- b) Would like to see a few more deer
- c) Would like deer to remain at present numbers
- d) Would like fewer deer
- e) Would like no deer in residential areas

14) Please provide additional comments or a description of issues that you would like to make the committee aware of regarding deer.





## PLEASE READ! AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE VILLAGE OF RIVER FOREST DEER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE!

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The River Forest Deer Management Committee invites you to take the Deer Questionnaire. Visit [www.RiverForestDeer.com](http://www.RiverForestDeer.com) to participate. This questionnaire is open to River Forest residents 18 and older. **Responses are due July 31, 2020, number of questions, approx. time to complete.**

The purpose of this questionnaire is to gather River Forest residents' point of view on the deer population and its impacts on the community. This questionnaire will help guide the River Forest Deer Committee on making recommendations to next steps and is for information gathering purposes only.

[www.RiverForestDeer.com](http://www.RiverForestDeer.com)



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*www.vrf.us*

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