

West Seneca Deer Task Force Agenda

June 15, 2021

The Deer Task Force meeting will be held in the Small Conference Room at the Community Center & Library, 1300 Union Road at 6:00 PM.

- Welcome
- Kristina Ferrare, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida County, presenting on her experience in working with communities around the deer-human conflict (6-6:20 via web video)
- Q&A with Kristina Ferrare (6:20-6:30)
- Approval of Meeting Minutes of May 18, 2021 (6:30-6:35)
- Robin Foster & Saundra Mercado Task Force members present (6:35-7:05):
 - What data can we find and share on deer-vehicle collisions, tick-borne illnesses from deer, and damage to plants from deer? (6:30-6:45)
 - How do people behave (what do they do with and in their yards) that effect deer habitat? How is the suburban built environment effecting deer habitat? What behaviors (planting of ornamental and/or vegetable gardens) inadvertently providing an abundance of food and shelter for the deer population?
- Discussion of presentations
- Review of communications received (emails)
- Review of original resolutions, inquiries, and investigations for Task Force members to take on
- Other topics (new business)
- Action items and assignments set for future meetings

Note that the next opportunity for public comment at a Deer Task Force meeting will be Tuesday July 20th.

Molly Martin

From: Amy Kobler
Sent: Thursday, May 20, 2021 10:26 AM
To: Molly Martin
Subject: Fwd: Town Board online submission

Begin forwarded message:

From: Marlene Yahoo
Date: May 20, 2021 at 10:22:47 AM EDT
To: Amy Kobler <akobler@twyny.org>
Subject: Town Board online submission

Good day:

I am seeking to get copies of the meeting minutes for the Deer Task Force. I see that there was a meeting this week, 5/18 and one scheduled for 6/15. Are these meetings available for public attendance or through Zoom? I am a new WS resident on Norwood and there is a real deer issue and now there are a herd of 12 that are constantly lingering on the street. I fear that there will be accidents at night as these deer run across the street to get to Main St. Or that area. What is the town doing? I need to have something done as I have a new build and cannot even think of planting any shrubs or plants since the deer will use these as a meal.

Thank you for your time and any information on who I can contact or get involved on this task force would be appreciated.

Marlene Davis

Deer Task Force/Napieralski

Kerri Napieralski

Mon 5/24/2021 5:48 PM

To: Deer Task Force <WSDeerTaskForce@twsny.org>

"Deer" West Seneca Deer Task Force:

Six years ago I bought a home here in beautiful West Seneca. I moved here due to proximity to work and the abundance of nature. The creeks, animals, and plenty of trees make our town appealing.

Over the years I learned to coexist with animals by safeguarding my landscape. I researched on my own and contacted animal experts. I make sure my garbage is secure and don't use animal feeding stations. As a result, the deer no longer browse my plants.

Nearby towns have been successful in educating the public on coexisting with wildlife. They provided residents with a plethora of information to help manage their property without using lethal methods. In turn, it deterred animals from leaving the woods and wandering into yards or roadways. Lethal methods are not successful, it only puts a bucket under a leaky faucet. In addition, it does not sit well with many residents, including myself.

I remain hopeful, town officials and the deer task force do their due diligence and recognize this is not an animal problem, but a people problem. Educating residents on how to better manage their property and the town cutting down on housing development is the solution to explore.

Warm Regards,

Kerri Napieralski
4457 Clinton Street
West Seneca, NY 14224

Re:

Deer Task Force <WSDeerTaskForce@twsny.org>

Thu 5/27/2021 2:11 PM

To: Sandra Weaver <

Hello Sandra,

I cannot speak to how the survey was implemented, as I was named to the Deer Task Force after it was completed.

As an FYI: Thank you for your comment.

I will be sharing all comments via email and mail with Task Force members as a part of the agenda prior to the meeting each month.

Updates will be posted regularly on the Task Force Web Page
here: <http://www.westseneca.net/government/deer-task-force#gsc.tab=0>

We will be open for public comment every other month at the meeting. Since we did allow comment in May, that means the next meeting with public comment will be in July.

Sincerely,

Cynn timer Gaasch
Facilitator

From: Sandra Weaver
Sent: Saturday, May 22, 2021 8:21 AM
To: Deer Task Force <WSDeerTaskForce@twsny.org>
Subject:

Hi. I just recently became aware of the WS deer taskforce. I saw mention of a survey. Where was this posted? Why wasn't it mailed to each WS resident? I would have been interested in responding.

Sandra Weaver

Yesterday's meeting

JENNIFER GRANDINETTI

Wed 5/19/2021 10:03 AM

To: Deer Task Force <WSDeerTaskForce@twsny.org>

I was not able to attend the meeting yesterday but I am hearing about it today. I am very concerned at what I'm hearing. Please tell me your task force is not filled with hunters?! The thought of hunting and killing innocent deer in West Seneca is very disturbing to me. The simple fact that it is being considered is unacceptable. People want to kill a living creature because they are pooping on their gardens? Please tell me this is not true? Here's an idea enclose your garden!!! There are plenty of alternatives that I can think of rather than killing an innocent animal that has as much of a right to live on this earth as we do.

Also, It would be nice if you sent out a notification to the public when these meetings are going to happen. We should all have better access to them and they should be made easily available to residents going forward since this directly affects us and possibly our taxes.

Thank You

Sent from my iPhone

Deer Task Force Meeting

Leslie Just

Wed 5/19/2021 9:50 AM

To: Deer Task Force <WSDeerTaskForce@twsny.org>

Good Morning.

I attended the task force meeting as a member of the public last night and was not aware there would be comments allowed so I wasn't prepared unfortunately. However, as a resident and homeowner here, I would like to share and submit my observations after attending.

It did not go unnoticed how many hunters there are on the task force and I can't help but wonder how self serving some of the efforts will be when constructing solutions. As a resident of West Seneca for over 50 years, I am aware of the changes that have taken place and that includes development encroaching on our natural surroundings which not only impacts wildlife but also humans. There were many comments made about how people love nature yet they want to be able to pick and choose what they get in their yards and neighborhoods. We can't control nature, as we see by problems we now face that we've created..but we can learn how to coexist and not cause further damage and problems.

Loving deer (which I heard repeatedly) and killing them are contradictory- managing the situation we've created and put ourselves and the deer in should be the focus. I am hopeful this is truly a balanced task force and not just a group put together with a self serving agenda that is not based on the majority of residents interests.

Respectfully,
Leslie Just