

DEER COMMITTEE  
January 21, 2008  
MINUTES

Members present: Keith Brown, Darrell Gaskill, Terry Gray, Jack Harkness, John Hermanson, Jerry Hopkins, Leon Lamer, Chris Theissen, Dick Hierstein  
Also present: Bill Bunger, Iowa DNR

The minutes of the December 3 meeting were approved.

The aerial survey was completed by Bill Bunger on Thursday, January 15. He presented maps marked with the areas surveyed and distributed a report of the survey results. The observed number of deer per square mile varies from 62 in the NE section to 36 in the NW section to 20 in the SW section. The committee is looking at 20/sq. mile as a guideline to use as a target. Bill stated that we could expect these numbers to increase by as much as 35% per year.

It was reiterated that should the city decide to implement urban hunting, the state commission must approve the request annually at their June meeting. The state only approves the special hunt and the city has the authority regarding specific rules and regulations. Bill will submit our request provided he has all the information needed from us by mid-May. Dick and Terry were asked to draft an ordinance for committee review by the next meeting.

Chris and John presented some findings on alternative, non-lethal ways to discourage deer. While there are many methods available, it was noted that no method works all the time for all situations. The deer adapt quite easily to many of these means. There are several websites that have a great deal of good information and it was suggested that the city website be linked to some of these references.

The next meeting is set for Wednesday, February 18, 2:00 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.

Meeting adjourned.