

**MINUTES OF THE H. P. DEER COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**DECEMBER 10, 2012**

The Hollywood Park Deer Committee met in a regular session December 10, 2012 at 7:04 p.m. in Town Hall. Notice was posted in accordance with the Texas Open Meeting Laws.

Committee Co-Chairman, Arnold English called the meeting to order. Committee Members present: Nancy Swan, Tonya Cummings, Carol Ingham, Markham Benn, Michael Crevoisier and Committee Secretary, LuAnn Montgomery. Jeff Doss, Larry Morris and Barbara Schmitz were absent.

**CONSENT ITEM:**

Review and approve Deer Committee meeting Minutes for Oct.8, 2012. Tonya Cummings made a motion to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by N. Swan. The motion passed unanimously.

**WILDLIFE INCIDENT REPORTS:**

Again, outdated Wildlife Incident Reports are being submitted, but it was stated that it was good to see so many submitted by residents. The buck with the cord wrapped around his antlers has been observed as getting along better with the cord getting shorter. There were a total of 10 reports with 1 Police Report with 1 having to be euthanized; 1 entangled with rope; 1 aggressive; 2 dead.

**PRESENTATION:**

David Achilles, H.P. Deer Manager – David began by clarifying his email address being changed. New email address is: [dachilles4@gmail.com](mailto:dachilles4@gmail.com). Regarding H.P. deer trapping, Achilles informed us that Mr. Allen, Ozona, TX had been approved by TPW for TTT, up to 60 animals. Mr. Allen had originally notified Will Mangum and in turn, Mangum contacted City Secretary, Janice Alamia; Janice then contacted Achilles. Mr. Allen had received deer from Hollywood Park in the past and continually maintains health tracking, delivery, transportation, etc. Confirmation will occur when Achilles makes contact with TPW biologist, Matt Reidy. Allen prefers we trap at the end of the season for the following reasons: 1) Increased pregnancies; 2) bucks are less aggressive and antlers may have dropped. Recommendation from Achilles is trapping up to 30 deer. Mayor Perry has been contacted for input. Considering last census count of H.P. deer was 133. Last season 24-26 does and 1 buck had been trapped and removed from the community. Allen prefers more does as does Achilles. Hollywood Park is equipped to 30-35 deer. Markum Benn and N. Swan agreed with the proposed number of deer to be removed based on trends and maintaining the herd count. Achilles said that last year brought many drought issues and we want to take advantage of TPW approving the TTT this year. He also said he would present this proposal for TTT removal to City Council, as he has already met with the mayor. Trapping to occur after January, hopefully the end of February or into March with the season ending the end of March. As for payment in exchange for the deer, TPW only allows exchange of money in traveling expense.

Tonya Cummings suggested we move Agenda Item #3 on New Business. In so doing, Deer Committee requested presence of a deer committee member at time of trapping. Achilles said he will make contact so that a deer committee member will be present.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION:**

*Hollywood Park Deer Manager, David Achilles* responded to citizen complaint from the previous deer meeting regarding Jeff Johnson from *Critter Gitter* assisting Achilles last season.

*Council member, Place 1 Steve Phillips* expressed concern that this was not on the next City Council meeting agenda, but Achilles said this meeting has been with Mayor Perry, as this is who he answers to. He also stated he had a friend in S. Texas that wants deer from Hollywood Park. Achilles responded that Phillips' friend must go through TPW and complete/submit form for approval before they can accept deer.

*Karen Waugh* asked about TTT procedures. Achilles responded by saying they would set up 3-4 trap sites with game cameras and set feeders / traps just before dawn. Cameras are programmed to "go off", indicating the number of animals trapped and determining whether to pull release. The key is getting everything synchronized for getting maximum capacity in the traps. The use of chutes and panels in backing the trailer to load animals is the most effective in animal handling. The deer remain relatively calm due to voices but can go into a "tizzy" when they see something above to release the doors. Achilles stated the cameras were personal equipment, but he may request 1-2 more feeders by the city.