

*Member Balaban* stated that she is more than willing to go visit concerned residents and takes a binder with her with all sorts of great information and samples. She pointed out that she reviews new products with residents and this year has information on an electronic pest ultrasonic animal repellent. She suggested this information be added to the educational information on the City's website.

*Mr. DeVoe* responded that he would look over the information.

**Discussed.**

**2016-0324** Adoption of a Resolution to recommend staff investigate the addition of prismatic reflective tape on deer signs

*Chairperson Deborah Barno* stated that it is her opinion that the fall education program is working by keeping motorists alert. She noted that at the January meeting, the Committee discussed adding signs.

*Member Balaban* stated that she did not realize that the message boards were only in place from October 15 to November 15, and only four message boards moved once to cover eight areas.

*Mr. DeVoe* noted that he does not place the message boards in the same locations every year. He explained that he reviews crash data and selects various locations based on high occurrences.

*Member Balaban* distributed information on flashing signage that operates on solar energy and encouraged the Committee to give this type of permanent signage consideration.

*Mr. DeVoe* responded that Oakland County has full control of the signage used on roads under its jurisdiction.

*Member Balaban* stated that perhaps State Representative Michael Webber could be encouraged to introduce legislation allowing cities to reduce speed limits in high deer vehicle collision areas during certain times of the day.

*Mr. Hetrick* responded that any legislation introduced would be at the State level, and he commented that it would be difficult for Representative Webber to sponsor legislation that would apply state-wide.

*Chairperson Barno* mentioned reflective tape that Council Member Kubicina had observed on signs up north.

*Mr. DeVoe* noted that Oakland County must approve the use of the tape on its signs. He pointed out that the County approves the location of the message boards each year. He stated that the County has stressed that flashing lights are reserved for certain situations such as school zones and railroad crossings.

*Mr. Elwert* suggested that the Committee could consider adopting a recommendation regarding adding reflective tape. He noted that as the Deer Management Advisory Committee is an advisory board, he could take a

*recommendation to the Mayor's office, and subsequently to Council and the County for consideration. He questioned how many deer signs were in the City.*

*Mr. DeVoe responded that there were approximately 35 to 40 signs.*

**A motion was made by Barno, seconded by Decker, that this matter be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Balaban, Brown, Barno, Decker, McDonald and Knachtman

**Absent** 1 - Stephens

**Resolved**, that in an attempt to further reduce deer vehicle accidents, the Deer Management Advisory Committee, hereby recommends that City Staff investigate and pursue, if consistent with the Mayor's position, the addition of prismatic reflective tape on deer signs within the City of Rochester Hills.

**2016-0289** Determine Message Board Use

*Member Allen Decker suggested that churches and businesses in the community that have electronic signs could be approached to ask if they could incorporate a message regarding deer vehicle collisions during October and November.*

*Member Monique Balaban suggested adding additional message boards and increasing the time that the boards are in use to at least December 1 or December 15. She stated that the Committee should request additional funding.*

*Mr. DeVoe stated that last year's cost was approximately \$3,000 for four signs for one month. He cautioned that too many signs may cause them to lose their effectiveness as they could be ignored. He noted that extending the time for their use and moving to six signs could double their cost.*

*Discussion ensued regarding the dates for display and the number of signs to recommend. The Committee determined that the recommendation should be to utilize the signs from October 1 through December 1, increasing from four to six signs if possible, at a cost not-to-exceed \$6,000.00.*

*After the vote on the motion regarding the signage recommendation, discussion turned to whether to change the information on the signs. It was noted that the signs say "Hi Deer Crash Area" and "Don't Veer for Deer". He commented that "Don't Veer for Deer" is a slogan that is recognized.*

**A motion was made by Barno, seconded by Knachtman, that this matter be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Balaban, Brown, Barno, Decker, McDonald and Knachtman

**Absent** 1 - Stephens

**Resolved**, that the Deer Management Advisory Committee hereby recommends that signage be increased from four (4) changeable message boards to six (6) changeable message boards, and amending the days of usage from October 1 through December 1, not to exceed a cost of \$6,000.00.

2016-0290 Discuss the continuation of the annual aerial survey

**Ken Elwert** stated that as discussed earlier in the meeting, the general consensus of the Committee is to continue the aerial survey as it has been done previously.

**Lance DeVoe** commented that this will provide a historical significance to the survey numbers.

**A motion was made by Barno, seconded by Knachtman, that this matter be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye** 6 - Balaban, Brown, Barno, Decker, McDonald and Knachtman

**Absent** 1 - Stephens

**Resolved**, that the Deer Management Advisory Committee, recommends that the City continue the Aerial Deer Survey as it has for the past several years.

2016-0291 Develop 2016 recommendations to City Council

**Chairperson Deborah Barno** noted that two new or revised recommendations were already discussed and adopted by the Committee for incorporation into the Committee's list: To recommend that Staff explore the potential for utilizing prismatic tape on deer signs with Oakland County; and to make a recommendation on the increase in the use of message boards. She suggested a recommendation that the educational campaign be increased to include spring as well as fall to provide information about deer fawning.

**Lance DeVoe** suggested that the City's water bills might be used as well to further distribute the educational messages in the spring and fall.

**Mr. Hetrick** noted that the recommendations should be incorporated into a presentation for Council.

Discussion ensued as to when the presentation should be made to Council.

**Chairperson Barno** noted that last year's presentation was made in September. She suggested that the information be presented earlier as the Budget is being discussed this month. She commented that she would hope that the Committee could go before Council in the next month.

**Mr. Elwert** Mr. Elwert stated that he would work with Finance on potential budget changes immediately and with Clerk's Office on potential presentation dates. He also offered to assist the Chairperson on development of the presentation if desired.

**Discussed.**

2016-0325 Adoption of a Resolution to add a recommendation that the Administration contact the local school districts to request that they assist in the signage campaign in the fall

*Mr. Elwert* commented that while the signs should not oversaturate the area, it might be beneficial to ask a few owners of electronic signs to help spread the message in key areas.

*Mr. Hetrick* commented that the City has a good relationship with the schools.

*Chairperson Barno* suggested that the City contact the local school districts and request that they assist in the signage campaign in the fall, and incorporate the request into the Committee's list of recommendations.

A motion was made by **Barno**, seconded by **Balaban**, that this matter be **Approved**. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye** 6 - Balaban, Brown, Barno, Decker, McDonald and Knachtman

**Absent** 1 - Stephens

**Resolved**, that the Deer Management Advisory Committee hereby add a recommendation that the Administration contact the local school districts to request that they assist in the signage campaign in the fall.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

*Member Monique Balaban* noted that she incorporated information into the binder about immunocontraceptives including PZP and Gonacon. She noted that the Environmental Protection Agency has approved Gonacon, and a number of states have already registered its use. She added that she also has learned there are new varieties of arborvitae and yew that are resistant to deer, and suggested that this information be included on the City's website.

*Member Allen Decker* commented that he was reading online that Ann Arbor is proposing to look into some form of deer birth control in 2017.

It was determined that *Mr. Elwert* would contact Council's administrative staff to determine which meeting date would be available for the Committee's presentation to City Council.

## NEXT MEETING DATE

To Be Determined.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, Chairperson Barno adjourned the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Mary Jo Pachla.

Minutes were approved as presented/amended at the \_\_\_\_\_ [year] Deer Management Advisory Committee Meeting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Deborah Barno, Chairperson