

## Alison Foulis - City Clerk

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**From:** Mary Neilan - City Manager  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 23, 2016 10:16 AM  
**To:** Alison Foulis - City Clerk  
**Subject:** Fwd: Community Meeting on Deer on 10/26

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Julie Wainwright <[julie.wainwright@therealreal.com](mailto:julie.wainwright@therealreal.com)>  
**Date:** October 23, 2016 at 10:06:25 AM PDT  
**To:** [mneilan@cityofbelvedere.org](mailto:mneilan@cityofbelvedere.org)  
**Subject:** Community Meeting on Deer on 10/26

I can not attend, but I want to make my POV clear. I support the Marin Humane Society's position on deer in Belvedere. I do not want the females sterilized. I am a long term Belvedere resident at 126 Madrona Ave.

Sincerely,

--

**Julie Wainwright**

CEO

**The RealReal** | [therealreal.com](http://therealreal.com)

[julie.wainwright@therealreal.com](mailto:julie.wainwright@therealreal.com)

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## Alison Foulis - City Clerk

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**From:** Ganz, Peter <Peter.Ganz@ucsf.edu>  
**Sent:** Sunday, October 23, 2016 12:26 PM  
**To:** Alison Foulis - City Clerk; Mary Neilan - City Manager; James Campbell - Mayor; Marty Winter-Vice Mayor; Nancy Kemnitzer - Councilmember; Claire McAuliffe - Councilmember; Bob McCaskill - Councilmember; Robert F. Epstein - City Attorney  
**Cc:** Miriam Ganz; Ganz, Peter  
**Subject:** Lyme Disease information  
**Attachments:** Ganz letter on Lyme Disease 10-22-2016.pdf

Dear Members of the City Council of Belvedere and Staff of the City Council of Belvedere,

At recent City Council meetings, the issue of Lyme disease and its prevalence was brought up by a member of the 2016 Deer Group. I promised to share with you medical information about Lyme disease, particularly its form called "Chronic Lyme Disease". Please, see the attached document that I hope you will also post on the City of Belvedere website.

Sincerely,

Peter Ganz, MD  
111 Bayview Avenue  
Belvedere, CA 94920

October 23, 2016

Peter Ganz, MD  
111 Bayview Avenue  
Belvedere, CA 94920

A member of the 2016 Deer Group has alluded to a Lyme disease support group that meets at the Marin General Hospital as having many participants, implying that this disease may be more widespread than the state of California admits to in its reporting. Close inspection of the testimonials on the support group's website (and other similar Lyme disease support group websites) suggests that many of these patients have been diagnosed with "Chronic Lyme Disease" (whether or not these exact words were used). Information about "Chronic Lyme Disease" is thus much needed and I gladly provide it below.

Lyme disease is caused by an infection with a tick-borne bacterium called *Borrelia burgdorferi*. Lyme disease has 3 well-recognized stages all of which can be cured by commonly used antibiotics that carry relatively few side-effects when used over a relatively short course of required treatment.

In contrast, some patients and their advocacy groups are proponents of an entirely different form of Lyme disease that is referred to as "**Chronic Lyme Disease**". Many patients that are members of Lyme disease support groups appear to have this form of Lyme disease. It should be noted immediately that medical science does NOT support or recognize the existence of "Chronic Lyme Disease". **This entity was reviewed by the world's foremost Lyme disease science experts in an article called A Critical Appraisal of "Chronic Lyme Disease", published in the *New England Journal of Medicine* on October 4, 2007 (Feder et al. *New Engl J Med* 2007; 357:1422-1430). This article can be found at <http://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMra072023#t=article> .** These experts concluded (page 1428): "Chronic Lyme disease is the latest in a series of syndromes that have been postulated in an attempt to attribute medical unexplained symptoms to particular infections. Other examples that have now lost credibility are "chronic candida syndrome" and "chronic Epstein-Barr virus infection". **The assumption that chronic, subjective symptoms are caused by persistent infection with *B. burgdorferi* is not supported by carefully conducted laboratory studies or by controlled treatment trials.**"

**The salient features of the *New England Journal of Medicine* article:**

- The entity of Chronic Lyme Disease is being promulgated by a small number of practitioners (often self-designated as "Lyme-literate physicians") to describe patients whom they believe have a persistent infection due to *Borrelia burgdorferi*, despite treatment with antibiotics that should be adequate to cure the disease. They view some of these patients as being potentially incurable. [note that the term "**Lyme-literate physicians**" is used sarcastically by these top medical scientists who authored the *New England Journal of Medicine* article]
- The entity of Chronic Lyme Disease includes a broad array of illnesses or symptoms for which there is **no convincing scientific evidence of any relationship to *Borrelia burgdorferi* infection.** These symptoms may be quite non-specific such as fatigue, joint or muscle aches, depression,

poor concentration sleep disturbances, headaches and alike. Many patients diagnosed with Chronic Lyme Disease have received either a misdiagnosis (including Chronic Lyme Disease, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia) or a diagnosis (e.g. multiple sclerosis) that they are reluctant to accept and have sought an alternative diagnosis from a physician willing to treat them for Chronic Lyme Disease.

- The diagnosis of Chronic Lyme Disease is vastly different from that of any other infectious disease as **the diagnosis is often based entirely on one physician's judgment rather than on a set of objective, well-defined clinical criteria or on validated laboratory studies.** The diagnosis is often made regardless of whether patients have been in areas where Lyme disease is endemic.
- Remarkably, even a negative laboratory evidence of infection with *Borrelia burgdorferi* based on standard, well-accepted laboratory tests (e.g. negative serological studies) does not dissuade proponents of Chronic Lyme Disease from making this diagnosis. Instead, **they rely heavily on testing by "Lyme specialty laboratories" that perform unvalidated in-house tests that are not regulated by the Food and Drug Administration, or they may perform standard serologic tests interpreted with the use of criteria that are not based in any scientific evidence.**
- Unfortunately, **the consequences of making this unscientific diagnosis of Chronic Lyme Disease can be severe,** as these patients are commonly treated with antibiotics for months to years, often with severe side effects. At times, these patients have even been treated by unconventional, dangerous therapies such as bismuth injections or deliberate injections to cause malaria.
- **Testimonials of individual patients supported by their advocacy groups should NOT be an appropriate substitute for sound medical science.**

In sum, while one can be empathetic to any patients who appear to be suffering (whether physically or emotionally), **the evidence against the existence of Chronic Lyme Disease is strong and consequences of making this scientifically unsupported diagnosis are potentially severe (including unnecessary treatments with therapies that carry serious side-effects).**

It should be noted that while this *New England Journal of Medicine* article was written in 2007, the scientific statements it contains are entirely up to date.

It is unfortunate that the 2016 Deer Group is trying to exploit the diagnosis of Chronic Lyme Disease as an argument for their proposed deer management program on Belvedere.

Sincerely,

Peter Ganz, MD

## Alison Foulis - City Clerk

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**From:** Mary Neilan - City Manager  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2016 8:10 AM  
**To:** Danielle Anjou  
**Cc:** All - City Council; Alison Foulis - City Clerk  
**Subject:** RE: Deer control in Belvedere

-----Original Message-----

From: Danielle Anjou [mailto:danjou200@icloud.com]  
Sent: Sunday, October 23, 2016 5:43 PM  
To: Mary Neilan - City Manager  
Subject: Deer control in Belvedere

Dear Mary,

I will be out of town and unable to attend the meeting on deer control in Belvedere.  
I strongly support the Humane Society's position opposing sterilization considering it inhumane, cruel and unnecessary.  
I hope that the council will consider working with the Humane Society to find a practical and cruelty free option for the situation, if it is in fact an actual problem.

Thank you Mary,

Danielle Anjou  
Belvedere CA

Sent from my iPhone

## Alison Foulis - City Clerk

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**From:** Pat <pat.reichardt@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 24, 2016 1:32 PM  
**To:** Alison Foulis - City Clerk  
**Subject:** deer forum

I am out of town and unable to attend the meeting but would like to express my opposition to deer sterilization.  
Pat Reichardt  
14 Laurel Ave.  
Sent from my iPad

## Kate Baker

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**From:** Cam Baker <Cam@larkmead.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 25, 2016 10:08 AM  
**To:** Kate Baker  
**Subject:** RE: Belvedere City Council Letter

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 2016  
City of Belvedere

38 Alcatraz Ave  
Belvedere, CA. 94920

October 25, 2016

RE: Over population of deer in Belvedere

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

We have lived in Belvedere since 1963 and since 1972 have resided at 38 Alcatraz Ave on Corinthian Island. In recent years, the deer population has increased substantially. It's not uncommon to have 2 to up to 7 deer on our property alone. Occasionally we'll also have 2 large bucks. (see attached picture) We as in the rest of Belvedere have had extensive damage to our gardens, have had to replant them twice from having deer damage. We have also constructed deer fences. The deer can be dangerous especially when we have to chase them off the property. The deer are not afraid of us and will stare us down and we have to make lots of noise, use air horns and walk towards them. Eventually they walk off only to go around and come back up the other side.

Recently I was in front of the Billie House on Alcatraz Avenue walking toward the Yacht Club when a 4 pointer stag leapt up 3 feet from the road where he was resting. He and I were no more than 3 feet apart and we stared at each other. The stag was agitated, aggressively moving his front feet and I walked away as calmly as I could. A woman was coming up on the crest with a child and a dog and I advised her where the deer was and she decided to go around the island and down Bellevue Avenue. Awhile back our neighbor George Gness dog was attacked by a deer and injured it to the expense of over \$1000 in medical bills at the vet.

Over population of animal in a locale is not uncommon especially when there are no predators The goal is simple and clear, reduce the number of deer in Belvedere. The solutions are complex. Various remedies have been pursued throughout the country; such as recent round up and relocation of wild stallions in the western states, the culling by the government recently in several newspaper reports, sterilization by cities and other means.

Although there has been significant damage to vegetation throughout Belvedere, the primary concern is safety. Deer can be aggressive and can and do threaten people and animals. It is incumbent upon city government to protect its residents safely. It is up to the city council to determine what is the best solution, i.e. culling, relocation, sterilization etc. We all compliment you for undertaking this issue in a professional way and holding a hearing on October 27<sup>th</sup>. It's time for the council to act now to remedy this situation and we all look forward to you taking appropriate action at this time.

We all thank you for your dedication to Belvedere and know that from time to time it's not easy but that is why you folks are there. Many thanks for all your efforts and all the best.

Cam and Kate Baker



Margaret Jones  
280 Madrona Avenue  
Belvedere, California 94920

October 26, 2016

Belvedere City Council,

We live in a long-established small community with a 15 mile per hour speed limit on most of the island. We also have a number of wild deer, animals that are beautiful and graceful when we see them. Deer are also very quiet. Most of the time we do not see them. We have lived in peace with those deer for a long time. We all drive more carefully on Belvedere's narrow and curving streets partly because those deer are here. We all know that there are many cars owned by the people in Belvedere that are capable of going many multiples of 15 miles per hour on the freeway. But their owners are sensible enough to realize that this is a small quiet residential town.

There are no sidewalks on our island, so we must always drive more carefully because of the deer, AND because of the children walking to school, and all the other walkers, and the runners, and the bike riders, and the children playing in the street, and occasional skateboarders. Some of those deer are large, but all are shy. They run away quickly - except when surprised, or cornered. There are many deer pathways known only to them that only deer can use, and all the deer know how to disappear very quickly into the greenery.

It seems neither necessary, nor appropriate, at this point, to consider taking any expensive approach to sterilizing all female deer in our city. Belvedere has a population of wild deer that seems pretty stable, not increasing rapidly. These deer are our long standing neighbors.

Would we seriously consider sterilizing female skunks, and female raccoons?

Many Belvedere residents see these beautiful wild and timid deer as part of the history and the charm of this small green city of trees, hills, stairs, and bushes and narrow curving roads? I think they do. These mysterious deer are also one of the quiet charms of our city.

Margaret Jones

## Alison Foulis - City Clerk

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**From:** Joe rossi <eaglejk@sbcglobal.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 27, 2016 6:18 PM  
**To:** Alison Foulis - City Clerk  
**Subject:** Deer in your community ?

I live in Cotati Ca.

My wife and I were watching your local News during a City Council Meeting. Some of your city speakers were talking about Birth Control for deer and Deer Euthanasia and Deer attacks on Dogs ? As a Hunter at this point "we" were pretty on the floor laughing :) :), BUTT.....

I have "Cross Bow" and my suggestion for ALL of you, is to call fish and game and ask for a "Special Hunt" I'm ready !

My Wife is a "Horticulturist" and she has people complain about Deer to herald the time..... The problem is many Home Owners feed the Deer and or leave Pet Food outside and plant things Deer LOVE TO EAT. There are things Deer do not like to eat.

Tall Cyclone Fencing is a start .

Glad to help :)