

Conservation from page 10

ing near Fenvale is the main concern for the Selectmen.

Mary Anne said she had sent our Land Summit "Priorities List" to Beth McGuinn [at Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust].

New Business

Mary Anne reported she had contacted Laura Alexander to request her help in facilitating two meetings to discuss criteria involved in a Conservation Plan for Andover. The first meeting will be to determine criteria. The second will be to take the criteria and start mapping. The Conservation Plan should evolve from Andover's Natural Resources Inventory.

Tina will contact Laura to see if she (Tina) can access the GIS Lab and also to discuss GIS information with Laura before our proposed meeting.

Possible meeting dates are Monday, May 21, from 6 PM to 9 PM for the first meeting, and Monday, June 4, from 6 PM to 9 PM for the second meeting. Mary Anne will determine if there are fees to be paid for these services and will contact us with that information.

Bob reminded us of a meeting of the Master Plan Update Committee to be held at the Town Hall on Wednesday, May 23. Charlie French from the Co-operative Extension will facilitate a discussion of the results of the Master Plan survey sent out in *The Andover Beacon*.

Sandra Graves said she had spoken to Brian Sullivan of the Watershed Alliance. There will be a training session for the Voluntary Rivers Assessment Program in Franklin at the Proulx Community Center on Wednesday, April 25. Volunteers are needed to test the waters of Sucker Brook. Sandra will contact the Viandiers, the Hillers, Jerry Hersey, and Everett Jones to see if they would be interested in this project.

Mary Anne related she had spoken to a person who might be interested in joining the Commission. She will also check with Debbie Stanley to determine the date of Jerry Hersey's return to the Commission. It will probably be in July, after the easement is completed.

May 9

Condensed from draft minutes

Present: Sandra Graves, Tina Cotton, Bob Ward, Nan Kaplan, Mary Anne Broshek

The Champagne project has now submitted the correct paperwork to DES and the application is complete.

Lorraine Cline attended the meeting and has indicated an interest in joining the Commission. Mary Anne will send a request to the Selectmen regarding her nomination.

Treasurer's Report

A number of new bills came in from the work on the Hersey easement. The bills were given to Tina and she will send an e-mail to members giving the latest balances after subtracting the bills. At this time, we believe that all bills have been submitted.

Elbow Pond Road

Bill Bardsley attended the meeting to discuss his concerns regarding Elbow Pond Road and the damage done to the wetland in the last storm. Bob gave the group the background on what has led to the current situation and members then discussed the site visit that was held on May 5.

At the site visit were four commission members: Tina Cotton, Nan Kaplan, Sandra Graves and Mary Anne Broshek. Also attending were Andy Prokosch, Bill Bardsley, Mark Stetson, Dennis Fenton, and Dale McLeod.

In the fall, truckloads of gravel were brought in for about a day and a half, raising the road close to two feet. These many truckloads brought in to fix the road were

once again washed into the wetland.

Dale noted that a silt fence was not used, no large rocks were placed on the road side for stabilization, and he also pointed out where a third culvert used to be that is now covered up. We will need to get more information on this third culvert, as its location is not known.

Mark explained that the selectmen have closed Elbow Pond Road where the washout occurred until the culverts are replaced this fall. All agreed that the culvert replacement will have a positive impact. The beaver dams were not the cause of the latest washout, but their presence does mean that there is less capacity for the water. There were a number of questions regarding how the solution to the fall road work was determined given the proximity to the wetland.

At the May 9 meeting, Conservation Commission members stated that they want to be involved in discussions regarding road work that can have an impact on a primary wetland. A number of questions were raised regarding the fall road work, the cost of that work, and what could be potential solutions to the last washout.

Bob will check with DES to obtain their best management practices regarding the removal of road washouts given the severity of the last few storms and changing weather patterns. Bob will also check with DES on the progress of the wetland permit submitted to begin the construction project that will replace the culverts and how road agents

are advised of DES practices around wetlands. He will also e-mail members a Web site for a DES manual on roads.

Mary Anne will contact Mark Stetson to discuss the concerns raised at this meeting as well as those brought up at the site visit. The goal is to work together to come up with a permanent solution to protect wetlands from road washout.

We also discussed the beaver situation at Elbow Pond. Nan Kaplan has been doing research on a solution called the "Beaver Deceiver". This is a method that is said to have a 100% success rate and allows the beavers to stay but without the damage caused by beaver dams. Because beavers always return, this seems like it could be a long term solution.

Nan will set up a meeting date with the person who installs this system and will invite Mark, the selectmen and Commission members to attend the meeting. The goal of the meeting is to come up with a plan that can be considered by the town. A motion was made and seconded to authorize the use of Conservation Commission funds, not to exceed \$300, for the visit and plan. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Maple Street Project

Charlie Darling presented the Maple Street permit request for Mark Stetson. Mark joined the meeting later. The Maple Street project is being done to get water off the road when there is a big storm. The project includes:

- Replacing a 15-inch pipe with a 24-
- See Conservation on page 12

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 Wednesday - Saturday: 7 AM to 8 PM
 Sunday: 8 AM to 2 PM
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TOWN of ANDOVER

The Andover Board of Selectmen will conduct a public hearing beginning at 7 pm on Monday June 18, 2007 at the Andover Town Office at 31 School Street in Andover regarding the Selectmen's intent to lower the water level of Highland Lake to facilitate work on the dam adjacent to Maple Street.

If the Board decides to proceed with the lowering, a public informational meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on Monday July 16, 2007 at the Andover Town Office pursuant to New Hampshire State Law. The lowering would then commence on September 4, 2007.

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