

Cons Comm from page 16

Stone and Tim Fleury from the UNH Cooperative Extension regarding the Taking Action for Wildlife program in which ACC will participate. Tina offered to finalize the date.

Larry described a solar-energy workshop for local homeowners to take place in January.

Using New Hampshire Wildlife Action Plan mapping from New Hampshire Fish and Game for the highest-ranked wildlife habitats in New Hampshire and additional maps in the natural resources inventory appendix of Andover's master plan, members identified five priority areas for conservation in Andover: the northeast, southeast, northwest, southwest, and central sections of town. ACC will focus on landowner and public outreach in those areas with the assistance of the UNH Cooperative Extension.

January 10

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Members Mary Anne Broshek, Larry Chase, Tina Cotton, Jason Dudek, Sandra Graves, Jerry Hersey, Nan Kaplan; guests Amanda Stone and Tim Fleury, UNH Cooperative Extension

With guests Amanda and Tim, members discussed how to proceed with the "Taking Action for Wildlife" project, using a step-by-step guide prepared by UNH Cooperative Extension Service. Focusing on some or all of the five potential priority areas in town that were identified at its December meeting, Andover Conservation Commission (ACC) may undertake a variety of outreach activities in the coming year using local media, property-owner mailings, public meetings, and educational projects. Tim volunteered to put together a workshop on best management practices for forestry for the spring. (Note: Amanda sent a follow-up e-mail with her notes on the discussion.)

Mary Anne will request a copy of the approved Master Plan so we can be sure the wildlife project is coordinated with the Master Plan.

Members voted to nominate Jason Dudek for ACC membership, replacing Harvey Pine. The nomination will be

submitted to the Board of Selectmen.

The higher federal tax credit for conservation easements was made retroactive for 2012 and has been extended through 2013. The Land Trust Alliance is working with Congress to make this credit permanent.

The State Conservation Commission organization Web site allows towns to set up their own Web page. Jason will contact Carol Andrews to determine how to do this.

Old Business

Members reviewed a draft of the ACC annual report for the Andover Town Report. Tina will incorporate changes and send to Town Administrator Marj Roy.

New Business

Members voted Mary Anne to serve as new ACC chair, with Jerry to serve as vice-chair.

February 13

Condensed from approved minutes

Present: Members: Mary Anne Broshek, Tina Cotton, Sandra Graves, Jerry Hersey, Nan Kaplan. Very active guest: Jason Dudek. Excused: Member Larry Chase.

ASLPT Update: Nan reported that the Ausbon Sargent Land Preservation Trust is considering the possibility of easements on several pieces of property within their area. The Foundation of Land Trust Coalition is another educational source. It will be giving two workshops during the year.

There is an effort to restore the Land and Community Heritage Program (LCHIP), which was cancelled by the last state legislature.

Beth McGuinn and Tim Fleury will be involved in engaging landowners of large parcels in group conversations about conservation easements.

Action Items: The ACC will continue to try to obtain a copy of the finalized Andover Master Plan in order to co-ordinate our Wildlife Action Plan.

Amanda Stone will send information to the ACC Chairman on the federal tax credit for conservation easements.

Jason has contacted Carol Andrews from the New Hampshire Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC). She gave him informa-



Workers from New Hampshire Electric Co-op (NHEC) installed new LED street lights on Main Street in Andover last month. The old-technology bulbs had dimmed over time, so for safety and energy efficiency, the Andover Energy Group worked with NHEC to change the fixtures to LEDs at no cost to the town. The LEDs give brighter light, cost the Town less to operate, and last significantly longer. Photo: Charlie Darling

tion and a template for building a Web page for the ACC on the NHACC web site. There was discussion by the ACC members about the contents and information to be provided on the Web page and the possibility of coordinating and interfacing with the Town's Web site.

Wildlife Project: The Chairman presented the members of the ACC with a draft covering the items to be considered. Members discussed the prioritization of the five wildlife areas identified at the previous two meetings of the ACC. The priority areas are:

- Bradley Lake Watershed (Larry Chase)
- Bog Pond Area (Nan Kaplan)
- Elbow Pond Area (Mary Anne Broshek)
- Northeast Area (Jerry Hersey)
- Southeast Area (Mary Anne Broshek)

A Wildlife Program lead was set for each of these areas as shown above. Members were asked to review the draft template and determine what items they would like to work on.

Town Meeting: There was considerable discussion on the most effective and informative materials to be displayed on our table during the day of the Town

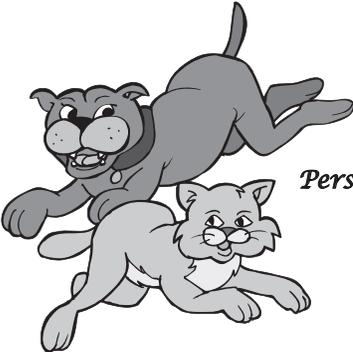
Meeting. A timetable was set for manning of the table by the ACC members. Brochures will be obtained from Fish and Game and Cooperative Extension. Jason will design some activities to showcase the wildlife maps and explore a slide show of NRI material.

Other: Tina reported that pending House bill 513 helps restore more conservative legislation for shoreland protection. Some towns were so alarmed by the increase in vegetative cutting along shorelines when the regulations were somewhat relaxed in 2011 that they enacted ordinances reverting back to the previous shoreline regulations of 2008. The pending legislation helps clarify and amend the 2011 changes.

Tina also read an excerpt from a NHACC newsletter dated 2003 about the Conservation Commission of New London launching a survey on invasive species along roads and trails in New London. Several species were targeted for removal.

A map showing the geographic coverage of New Hampshire land trusts was handed out to the members.

Potential ACC members were discussed. Tina will make some contacts to determine interest.



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