



# CONSERVATION COMMISSION TOWN OF BELMONT, NH

Wednesday, October 6, 2021  
Belmont Mill Tioga Conference Room and Remotely by Zoom  
Belmont, New Hampshire

Present: Chairman Scott Rolfe; Members Denise Naiva, Ed Stephenson and Jane Jordan; Alternate Member Pauline Tessier.  
Absent: Vice Chair Terry Threlfall, Jr.; Member Keith Bennett; Alternate Members Norm Jackson and Susan Irving.  
Staff: Rick Ball and Colleen Akerman.  
Zoom: Member Ruth Mooney, Ex-Officio; Student Members Ella Irving and Christopher Paré.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 6:03 pm and welcomed those in attendance.

## **Board's Action – Minutes 09/01/2021:**

**MOTION:** On a motion by E. Stephenson, seconded by J. Jordan, it was voted by roll call to approve the minutes of September 1, 2021. (4-0-1) Roll call: S. Rolfe - Aye, D. Naiva - Aye, J. Jordan - Aye, E. Stephenson - Aye. R. Mooney abstained.

## **NH Department of Environmental Services Applications:**

- 1. Scott Naismith – 50 Nancy Drive – Map/Lot 107-074-000-000:** Shoreland Standard under technical review to replace and enlarge asphalt driveway from 12' x 50' to 18' x 50'.
- 2. PSNH/Eversource – Lake Winnisquam:** Shoreland PBN accepted for work in the utility ROW.

## **Current Planning Board/ZBA/ARC Applications:**

### **1. Planning Board 09/27/2021–**

- a. Lewis Orrin Marden Jr. & David Marden – Seavey Road – Map/Lot 237-007-000-000:** The Board tabled a subdivision request to subdivide one lot into two, in order to research and obtain legal advice on a waiver request for sewer connections.

### **2. Zoning Board – 09/22/2021:**

- a. Loons of Winnisquam Rev. Trust – 21 Gilman Shore Road – Map/Lot 111-069-000-000:** The Board granted two variances to replace a single-family home: one for closer to the front property line and one for closer to the highwater mark than allowed but no closer than existing.
- b. Jennifer Bouchard for Sunset Beach Condominium – 72 Sunset Drive – Map/Lot 107-150-000-002 –** The Board granted a request for a rehearing on the denial of two variances for a carport closer to the side property line and to an unrelated structure than allowed; in order to clarify the language and point of law and to review new safety information.

### **3. ARC – 09/23/2021:**

- a. Matthew Gault – 682 Laconia Road – Map/Lot 230-043-000-000:** No one was present to review a Site Plan proposal for Light Manufacturing and a Contractor's Yard in the Commercial

District.

- b. **Gilmanton Sand & Gravel – 30 Watson Road & 28 Stone Road – Map/Lots 247-002-000-000 & 245-001-000-000** – Review for Boundary Line Adjustment to transfer 16.16 acres from Watson Road property to Stone Road property.

**Projects:**

**1. Silver Lake Association:**

R. Ball received a request from the Silver Lake Association for \$1,250 for this year's milfoil mitigation on Silver Lake.

P. Tessier reported there were four days of picking, with three of them in Tilton. Belmont only had one day of picking for some milfoil in one cove. She confirmed this is a reimbursement request as the work has been completed and paid for already. D. Naiva asked if it was all hand-harvested. P. Tessier said yes, no chemicals were used because there is a question of whether they would work fast enough before being swept downstream.

S. Rolfe asked if Tilton has contributed to the mitigation. P. Tessier said a request has been submitted to Tilton but they do not meet again until later this month. She expects Tilton will not pay for all of the work and the Silver Lake Association will pay a portion of the cost.

D. Naiva asked how the cost compares to past years. P. Tessier reported two years ago AquaLogic charged \$1,000 per day, but the cost is now \$1,250 per day. They do the bulk of all harvesting in New Hampshire.

P. Tessier noted that Belmont has contributed \$2,000 in the past, and this year the Association is only requesting \$1,250. She also informed the Commission they have a volunteer diver who has removed 32 gallons of milfoil from the lake at no cost. The lake is in pretty good condition. It could be because Winnisquam is treating milfoil heavily and it is benefiting Silver Lake.

**MOTION:** E. Stephenson moved to withdraw \$1,250 from the Conservation Fund for milfoil removal from Silver Lake.

The motion was seconded by J. Jordan and carried. (4-0-1) S. Rolfe - Aye, D. Naiva - Aye, J. Jordan - Aye, E. Stephenson - Aye. R. Mooney abstained.

P. Tessier reported she is working on trying to get a dam built at the outlet of Silver Lake. The Belknap County Commissioners will need to fund a study. The dam would help Winnisquam, Winnepesaukee and Silver Lake. There was a study done back in 1985 for this project but new data is needed. D. Naiva asked what would happen with the water flow at the new Franklin water park. P. Tessier explained that it could help the park because if a dam is put in the State could release water more quickly instead of needing to flood the entire lake to get enough water. This dam project would take years to complete, but the study needs to be done. The State budget is done every 2 years, and a survey could take one year. The Belknap County Commissioners will be asked for \$130,000 as the first phase of this project. The NHDES Dam Bureau's estimate to get enough information to submit an application to the State is \$530,000. P. Tessier said in 1985 the plan was for the dam to be down on the Route 140 side, but that may change because it has been 36 years. The original plan was done by the Army Corps of Engineers for flood control. The legislature passed two RSAs, but never funded them. R. Ball stated that no one from the Town was invited to the recent meeting with the State about the concept of the dam. P. Tessier

replied that the State Representatives hosted the meeting, and it was not the format the Silver Lake Association wanted. She said one representative from Tilton recorded the meeting and she will send the link along to Commission members.

## **2. 2022 Budget:**

R. Ball noted the Commission is not moving forward with any appropriations this year.

## **3. Daniel Ladd Farm Report:**

S. Rolfe reported a group of members met this past Saturday morning, October 2, 2021, and walked the property. It is a nice piece of property with a beautiful wood lot. There are some items that need to be addressed such as a pile of tires, and hiring a surveyor to delineate the property line and blaze and paint the boundaries. R. Ball asked if they saw the well house. S. Rolfe said no, they mostly walked the perimeter of the property. S. Rolfe also recommended a forestry report and a management plan. The group discussed a parking area, but there is no destination or trails; it is an open space with lots of wetlands. There is a place to pull off the road if people want to visit. There are a few invasives: bittersweet and glossy buckthorn. After the property lines are delineated, a property sign will need to go up. D. Naiva said they found lots of mushrooms, including "chicken of the woods".

## **Complaints/Violations/Concerns/General Info:**

### **Tioga River:**

D. Naiva said she was looking at the Five Rivers report on the property and it is the same old stuff. There is trash and some dumping and the trails need to be cut back. She asked if this property will be part of the grant that Ms. Donna Hepp submitted. D. Naiva said the property needs some help. It is being used and the trails should be maintained. There may be an issue with invasives. S. Rolfe commented the property is not conducive to lots of recreational development. There are limitations on what can be done and we have no rights to the railroad corridor.

### **Currier-Sanborn:**

R. Ball reported Five Rivers has not yet done a report on the Currier-Sanborn property. D. Naiva said she hopes it is in better shape.

### **Andrew Sanborn Farm:**

D. Naiva reported she visited the property and rode her eBike. The trails are better than last year but they are definitely growing in and need to be mowed. R. Ball is working on getting someone to mow. R. Ball also reported that the Commission, the Winni Trail, and DPW are supposed to contribute to a mower but the Commission has not received a bill yet.

### **Sargent Fund Application:**

D. Naiva said she received the application; however, she is no longer Chairman. S. Rolfe asked if she would still complete the application and she agreed.

### **Little Libraries:**

D. Naiva informed the Commission that Belmont Library Director Ms. Eileen Gilbert asked about putting up "little libraries" at the Town Forest and the Village Trail. The library was also supplied with 100 maps for the Village Trail.

### **NH Lakes Association Survey from NHACC:**

D. Naiva asked if everyone received the survey. It seems to be a municipal survey of the water

bodies in Town and R. Ball should probably be the one to answer the questions. He asked if members had any input for the survey. He was asked to report that the Commission has been active with water bodies in Town.

**Budget/Expenditures:**

**MOTION:** D. Naiva moved to withdraw \$35 from the Conservation Fund for the following:

- a. Conservation Commission Name Plates

The motion was seconded by E. Stephenson and carried on a roll call vote. (5-0) S. Rolfe - Aye, D. Naiva - Aye, J. Jordan - Aye, E. Stephenson - Aye, R. Mooney - Aye.

**Next Meeting:**

It was the consensus of the Commission to hold the next regular meeting on November 3, 2021.

R. Ball asked C. Paré if he would do an article for the Town newsletter about his climate project. He said yes, and informed the Commission that another climate summit will be held on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

E. Irving, C. Paré and P. Tessier left the meeting at 6:35 pm.

**Non-Public Session - RSA 91-A:3 II (d):**

**MOTION:** On a motion by S. Rolfe, seconded by J. Jordan, it was voted unanimously by roll call vote to enter Non-Public session at 6:35 pm for the purposes of discussing the acquisition, sale, or lease of land in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (d). (5-0) Roll call: S. Rolfe - Aye, D. Naiva - Aye, J. Jordan - Aye, E. Stephenson - Aye, R. Mooney - Aye.

Also present were Rick Ball and Colleen Akerman.

**BEGIN NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

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**END NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

The Commission returned to public session at 6:49 pm.

No action was taken while in Non-Public session.

**MOTION:** On a motion by E. Stephenson, seconded by J. Jordan, it was voted unanimously by roll call vote to seal the minutes of the Non-Public session. The minutes will remain sealed until such time the Commission acts to find the matter discussed is concluded. (5-0) Roll call: S. Rolfe - Aye, D. Naiva - Aye, J. Jordan - Aye, E. Stephenson - Aye, R. Mooney - Aye.

**Adjournment:**

**MOTION:** On a motion by D. Naiva, seconded by R. Mooney, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 6:50 pm. (5-0) Roll call: S. Rolfe - Aye, D. Naiva - Aye, J. Jordan - Aye, E. Stephenson - Aye, R. Mooney - Aye.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colleen Akerman".

Colleen Akerman  
Building and Land Use Clerk