BELMONT CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday April 8th 2026

Location:
Belmont Mill, Tioga Conference Room and Remotely by Zoom

Present:
Members: Ed Stephenson, Pauline Tessier, Jane Jordan, Tyson Morrill, Tabitha Lord, Mark Lewandoski
Guest: Sharon Ciampi
Alternate Members & Student Members: None Present

Zoom Attendance:
Members: None Present

Staff:
Roderick Cameron, Land Use Technician
John Crowley, Land Use Clerk
Karen Stuyniski, Town Planner

Call to Order:
Ed Stephenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Membership:
E. Stephenson reminded everyone that the officer elections will be held at the next Conservation Meeting on May 13th 2026.

E. Stephenson asked for a motion to accept and recommend approval by the Board of Selectmen for Pauline Tessier and Jane Jordan's renewal applications to the Belmont Conservation Commission. T. Morrill made the motion and T. Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed.

E Stephenson asked for a motion to accept and recommend approval by the Board of Selectmen for Cora Takantjas and Molly O'Connell's student applications to the Belmont Conservation Commission. After a brief discussion, T. Morrill made the motion to accept and recommend approval and T. Lord Seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Minutes:
E. Stephenson asked for a motion to pass the February Meeting Minutes. T. Morrill made a motion to accept the minutes, and T. Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Conservation Managed Properties Updates:
Town Forest: T. Morrill stated that he looked at the sign and everything was looking great. T. Morrill also mentioned that the wood for the railings has been purchased and is looking forward to doing the repair work this spring.

Wood Duck Nesting Box: T. Morrill stated that a local gentleman donated the materials for the boxes. P. Tessier and T. Lord both joined T. Morrill in helping get the boxes up. T. Morrill also had some friends join in. The goal is to leave them alone. These are placed in the pond so that the squirrels are unable to get to the boxes. T. Morrill mentioned that there has been an interest from social media with this project. Some people have offered lumber and supplies to help out. T. Morrill will work on getting a sign placed on the trail regarding the wood duck nesting boxes.

NH Association of Conservation Commissions: E. Stephenson stated that there is an invoice from the NH Association of Conservation Commissions for $400.00. E. Stephenson asked for a motion to pay the invoice amount of $400.00 for the dues. T. Lord made the motion and T. Morrill seconded. The motion passed.

Jeff Marden scholarship Fund: P. Tessier asked the Conservation Commission to approve $500 for 2 Scholarships in the amount of $250 each for the Jeff Marden Scholarship Fund. She noted that the Conservation Commission did not fund a scholarship last year. E Stephenson asked for a motion to approve $500 for the Jeff Marsden Scholarship Fund. T. Morrill made a motion to approve the amount of $500.00 for the Scholarship Fund and T. Lord seconded the motion. The motion passed. P. Tessier also said that she would try to join the Lakes Region Scholarship Foundation committee that evaluates the scholarship candidates and awards the recipients

Winnisquam Watershed Network:

E. Stephenson mentioned that not much is happening with the Winnisquam Watershed Network at this time. He did mention that they are getting ready to put out the Loon Nests on the lake.

Silver Lake Association:

P. Tessier stated that there is nothing going on at this time with the Silver Lake Association.

Student Members:

R. Cameron spoke regarding the potential students that are interested in getting involved with the Conservation Commission. He has had several discussions with the some of the High School teachers. Some plans have been discussed about trail clean-up at the Town Forest for student Earth Day activities.

New Business:

T Morrill asked if there was an update on social media. K. Stuyniski stated that it was still under review with Town Officials. K. Stuyniski reminded everyone to watch what you put out there on your phones and what you post. T. Morrill also asked about the generic business cards for Conservation Commission. R. Cameron stated that K. Stuyniski has the order ready to go to Staples. T. Lord made a motion to order the Business Cards up to $30.00 and T. Morrill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business:

R. Cameron stated that a drywall contractor had posted advertising on both kiosks at the Town Forest. R. Cameron noted that the Conservation Commission ought to consider how they will manage this use of conservation property. A motion was made and at the recommendation of K. Stuyniski, the motion was tabled. She stated that she would consult with legal counsel for language that could be used by the commission to address this situation.

The next meeting of the Belmont Conservation Commission is scheduled for May 13th 2026.

Adjourn:

T. Lord made a motion to adjourn, and T. Morrill seconded the motion. It was voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Crowley

John Crowley, Land Use Clerk