

The Citizen of Laconia

The voice of New Hampshire's Lakes Region

Search

Browse Archives

2012-12-19 / Local

Selectmen approve \$5,000 to find Mill dry rot solution

By BENJAMIN C. KLEIN

bklein@citizen.com

BELMONT — The Belmont Board of Selectmen has agreed to spend more than \$5,000 to best determine how to fix dry rot found in the floor of the fourth floor, occupied by the Food For Thought Cafe, in the Belmont Mill.

Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin explained, after the meeting Monday night, that the \$5,750 the selectmen approved to spend was not for repairing the damage that the dry rot has created but to determine what repairs are actually needed.

"We are currently pulling up the floor and getting it ready to be reviewed by an engineer, and then we will get it replaced," Beaudin said.

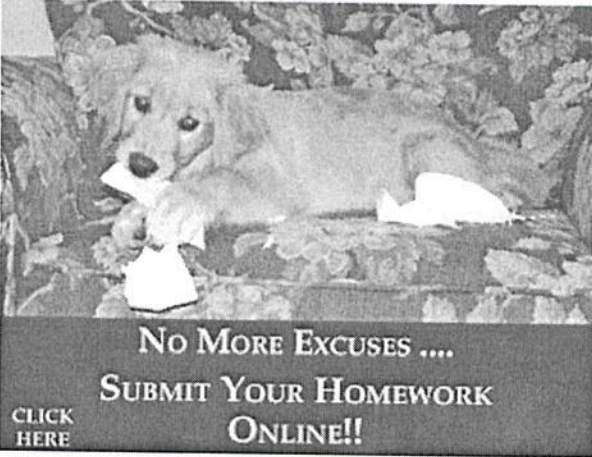
Beaudin said that it was her hope that repairs could be done while the Food For Thought Cafe, which is operated by the Lakes Region Community College, is closed over the next month for winter break.

"We have been in direct contact with LRCC, so they know what is going on," Beaudin said.

Beaudin, who was adamant that the damaged floor never posed a danger, said that the entire Belmont Mill has been checked and that it is believed that the dry rot is contained to only the fourth floor.

Until the engineer accesses the situation, Beaudin said it was impossible to know how much repairs could cost. While saying it might be possible that only sections of the floor will need to be replaced, Beaudin said it was possible the entire floor will need to be replaced.

Plymouth State UNIVERSITY



A building inspector found the dry rot after officials from LRCC asked the Belmont Selectmen to look into replacing the cafe's carpet due to, what Beaudin referred to as, a "sponginess," in the carpet.

"The building inspector checked it out and sure enough there was a problem," Beaudin said, who added that no mold was discovered.

Initially intended to be just a carpet replacement, the process for fixing the "sponginess" created by the dry rot will now be a much more expansive and expensive situation.

"We don't know how the water got in there. That building is an old building, which was renovated after the fire, and some beams were not replaced. There have been some issues in the building itself, we have had issues with water leakage in some toilets. It is what it is, unfortunately," Beaudin concluded.

[Return to top](#)

Share / Save

Post new comment

Your name:

landuse

Comment: *

