

WESCOTT, DYER, FITZGERALD & NICHOLS, PA
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
28 BOWMAN STREET • LACONIA • NEW HAMPSHIRE • (603) 524-2166 • www.wdfnlawyers.com

Sound Counsel
since 1927.

The Laconia Daily Sun

Archaeological study of Belmont Mill area will have to be completed before amenities can be added

By Gail Ober
Jan 04, 2012 12:00 am

BELMONT — The contracting company hired to oversee a nearly \$92,000 federal grant to do some work on the proposed Tioga Riverwalk and proposed pavilion told selectmen there must a more intensive archaeological study of the Belmont Mill area before any work can begin.

Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin told Selectmen in a late December meeting the work will be done by Independent Archaeological Consulting, LLC and will cost about \$7,000.

She said the money will come from the federal grant management by the Land and Water Conservation Fund that is administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service. The town of Belmont's in-kind match, according to Selectman Ron Cormier, was the use of the property.

According to the N.H. State Historic Preservation Office, under state and federal laws, the historic preservation department works with other governmental agencies to review publicly-assisted projects that may affect historical or archaeological resources.

Historic preservation "Review & Compliance" (R&C) is a consultation process to identify significant historic properties in the planning stage of a project, so that any harm to them can be avoided or minimized.

It is intended to be a conflict-resolution and problem-solving process that balances the public interest in historic preservation with the public benefit from a variety of governmental initiatives.

According to Cormier and the information provided by Beaudin, the 1B study comes on the heels of an earlier, less-intensive study and will focus on the area nearest the point where the Belmont Mill used to be before it burned and was subsequently rebuilt.

About 20 test shovel-dug test pits will be dug at eight meter distances to see if any remnants of the old mill complex and Euro-American artifacts exist.

The town will provide excavator assistance and all found artifacts — if any — will be taken to the Portsmouth lab of IAC for testing and processing. IAC will also provide the town with an extensive map of the areas they excavated replete with photographs, interpretations, background research and lab analyses.

2010 LAND ROVER LR4
CAPABLE. VERSATILE. ATTAINABLE.

LEASE FOR
\$699/month*
\$2995 DUE AT SIGNING. 36 MOS

BUY FOR
0.9% APR**
LIMITED TERM

Visit your
local retailer

DISCLAIMERS

LAND-ROVER