

Town of Belmont New Hampshire Annual Report 2015



On The Cover

In June of 2010 with the assistance of the Heritage Commission, their funding partners and PLAN NH, the Town conducted a Charrette which over the two-day period created a vision for the future of downtown Belmont. With that plan in mind, the Town hired an engineering firm in July of 2011 to assist in implementing the vision which was coined "A Village For All". In 2012 two grant initiatives were sought to assist the Town; through the efforts of Christine Fogg (and friends) a grant in the amount of \$89,180 was received from the Land Water Conservation Fund and as match for this grant the Town received a generous donation of land (the old railroad bed running from the Village to South Road) from Mr. and Mrs. Dick Persons. The grant would be used to construct what is now known as the Tioga Pavilion and River Walk Trail in the Village. Additionally the Town applied for and received a grant in the amount of \$202,000 from the Community Development Block Grant program to install new waterlines in the Village (Phase I). New sidewalks, landscaping and signage in the Village were installed during this phase as well.

In 2013 additional grant funds in the amount of \$355,000 were received from the Community Development Block Grant program to complete waterline installations in what was known as Phase II of the Village Revitalization project. In 2013 the Town also purchased from the City of Dover for \$1 a footbridge; through the generosity of Leslie E. Roberts, LLC, the bridge was moved to Belmont and stored on the Highway Department property. In late fall the Town applied for and was awarded a \$30,000 grant from the NH Recreational Trails Program to set a portion of the bridge across the Tioga River behind the Belmont Mill. Again through the generosity of Leslie E. Roberts, LLC, (Mark & Sons), the bridge was set in place in the fall of 2015. This bridge connects the Village to the River Walk Trail (old railroad bed). Volunteers continue to work almost daily on the cosmetic repairs to the bridge and in the spring new lighting will be installed all paid for through the NH Recreational Trails Program grant and the generous donation of volunteer labor. Setting the remaining bridge section and a third crossing will be part of the River Walk Trail in the future.

In 2014 the Heritage Commission through the efforts of its members received a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the Land & Community Heritage Investment Program to bring the Bandstand back to its original condition. Through this grant and Heritage Commission funds, the Bandstand today is a remarkable tribute to the Town of Belmont and its history.

This year's Town Report cover is a tribute to those who have worked so hard to revitalize a sense of pride in our community and it's Village.

We salute you and thank you for all that you have accomplished and continue to do on behalf of the Town of Belmont.