

**MEETING MINUTES
Belmont Conservation Commission
May 9, 2023
Virtual Meeting
7:00 pm**

DATE: June 20, 2023
TIME: 3:22 PM

Attendees:

Members: Chris Morris (Vice Chairperson); Mark Smith; Prassede Vella; Dan Nolan; Miriam Weil

Others: Mary Trudeau; Jeff North; Carolyn Bishop

Call to Order:

The Meeting was Called to Order at 7:15 pm by Christopher Morris, Vice Chairperson

Rock Meadow: Rules and Regulations

Mark Smith initiated the discussion by reviewing 1982 and 2006 Rules and Regulations, as well as previous Town authorizations for the creation of Rules and Regulations for users of Rock Meadow. The Commission reviewed the enabling legislation approved by the 2003 Town Meeting, Article 29, the Conservation Commission bylaw, which allows the Commission to make and publish rules and regulations. After a brief discussion, the Commission agreed to update the 2006 Rules and Regulations. The following text is a draft of the updated rules and regulations discussed on May 9, 2023

1.0 Prohibited Activities

- 1.01 Be in or upon the land during the time period between ½ hour after sunset and ½ hour before sunrise, unless carrying a permit from the Conservation Commission.
- 1.02 Other than in the Mill Street Parking Area, operate a motorized vehicle, including without limitation any motor vehicle or motorized bicycle as defined in section 1 of Chapter 90 of the General Laws and any recreation vehicle or snow vehicle as defined in section 20 of chapter 90B and any bicycle or scooter powered by any engine, except that vehicles used for lawn enforcement or permitted maintenance are authorized to operate on land. Class 1 motorized bicycles are permitted, and Class 2 motorized bicycles are expressly prohibited.
- 1.03 Ride, lead or drive any horse, pony, mule or donkey.
- 1.04 Possess any alcoholic beverage, whether sealed or open.
- 1.05 Set up a tent or other structure of any kind, without the express permission of the Conservation Commission
- 1.06 Kindle, or increase a fire, whether or not in a contained areas or receptacle.
- 1.07 Hunt, trap or shoot any birds or animals.

- 1.08 Use fireworks or explosive devices, discharge any firearm, rifle, or shotgun or discharge air gun; paintball gun, or similar device or use a bow and arrow, slingshot or similar device, or throw stones, sticks or other missiles.
- 1.09 Drones, remote controlled flying aircraft, rockets and planes.
- 1.10 Removed, cut or damage any flowers, plants, shrubs, trees, soil, water, artifacts or rocks, including without limitation the removal of fallen trees, and any digging or excavation without the express permission of the Conservation Commission. (Community Gardens are exempt).
- 1.11 Remove or injure or disturb any bird or animal.
- 1.12 Ride a bicycle, other than upon designated trails, except for a law enforcement officer.
- 1.13 Drop, throw or place and allow to remain any litter, garbage or other refuse except in such receptacles as may be provided, nor dispose of any lighted match or smoking materials.
- 1.14 Disposal of household, commercial or industrial trash in, and or around, any receptacles that may be provided for refuse.
- 1.15 Unleashed dogs. Dogs must be leashed, and dog waste must be picked up and disposed of in an appropriate receptacle. Failure to leash or comply with sections 20.10.7 through 20.10.10 of the General By-Laws of the Town of Belmont with regard to dog feces will result in individual fines for EACH loose dog or waste event. Fines may be up to \$300 dollars per offense, per dog.
- 1.16 More than 2 leashed dogs per person, unless they are licensed at the same address.
- 1.17 Place or post any sign or advertising without the express permission of the Conservation Commission.
- 1.18 Commit any disorderly act, disturb the peace, or behave in such a manner as to interfere with the rightful enjoyment of the public to quiet and peaceful conservation land.
- 2.00 Enforcement Authorized
 - 2.01 Any enforcing person taking cognizance of a violation of these rules may require the violator to provide his or her name and address. No person shall refuse or fail to provide their name and address upon request of an enforcing person.
 - 2.02 Any enforcing person taking cognizance of a violation of these rules, or having cause to believe any crime has been committed, may order the violator to leave the conservation land immediately, and remain off of the conservation land for a period of 24 hours. No person, upon receiving such order, shall refuse or fail immediately to leave the conservation land, or having left, no person shall enter the conservation land before the 24 hour period has expired.
- 3.00 Penalties
 - 3.01 Any violations of these rules shall be punished by a fine of \$100 dollars, except that in the event that the enforcing person issues a notice to appear in accordance with the non criminal disposition procedure authorized by Town of Belmont General By-Laws 29.4.2, the fines for each offense shall be \$50.

Based on a motion duly made and seconded, the Commission

VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm