

**VILLAGE OF SARANAC LAKE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
39 MAIN STREET SARANAC LAKE NY  
MEETING AGENDA 5:30 PM**

**Monday, January 27, 2025**

**This meeting will be held in the Village Board Room and may be viewed through ZOOM  
Enter at the side door of the building, 39 Main Street**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83464593667?pwd=UzV2YHl2VGtqdGRzL3F5OVZvNmMxUT09>

**Meeting ID: 834 6459 3667**

**Passcode: 459999**

**CALL TO ORDER    PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:**

**AUDITING:**

- a. Pay Vouchers
- b. Approve Minutes from 1-13-2025

**SPECIAL GUEST:** Kevin Farrington AES- Ampersand Ave Design

**PUBLIC HEARING:** Exemption to new STR Cap for District B-4 Tax Map #32.247-4-9.000

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION**

<b>BILL</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2025</b>	Resolution to allow sale of alcohol for the "Party at Pisgah" event on February 28, 2025
<b>BILL</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2025</b>	Resolution to authorize the Village Manager to offer discounted Ski Pass Tickets for Party at Pisgah event
<b>BILL</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2025</b>	Authorize Shared Services agreement with Department of Transportation
<b>BILL</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2025</b>	Resolution to appoint and reappoint members to the Parks and Trails Advisory Board
<b>BILL</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>2025</b>	Authorize the Village Manager to approve the proposal for discounted day tickets for registered Ski Races

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**NEW BUSINESS:** Amendments to STR Law

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**  
**PERIOD OF MEETINGS**

1. Anyone may speak to the Village Board of Trustees during the public comment periods of a public hearing or the public comment periods of the meeting.
2. As a courtesy, we ask those participating in public comment to introduce themselves.
3. Individual public comment is limited to **5 minutes** and may be shortened by the meeting chairperson if not respectful and productive in manner.
4. When a meeting is attended by a group of people who share the same or opposing views on a public comment topic, the chair may require that the group(s) designate not more than two spokespersons and limit the total time public comment to 5 minutes for each point of view or side of an issue.
5. Individual time may not be assigned/given to another.
6. A public hearing is meant to encourage comment and the expression of opinion, not a direct debate, nor should a commenter be intimidated by a village board member. Should a village response be asked, The Village Board of Trustees may offer explanation or information to the public at that time. They also reserve the right to request the individual leave contact information with the Clerk to receive a more researched answer at a later time.
7. Individuals requesting response from the village board, not offered during the meeting, will be contacted by phone, email, letter, or request for in-person meeting.
8. All remarks shall be addressed to the board as a body and not to any individual member thereof.
9. Interested parties or their representatives may address the board at any time by written or electronic communications.
10. Speakers shall observe the commonly accepted rules of courtesy, decorum, dignity and good taste.
11. Village Board members are offered a 5-minute grace period for meeting start. If board member is more than 5 minutes late to the meeting, they will forfeit their right to participate and vote during the meeting.
12. While electronic devices are necessary for viewing documents and time keeping, as a courtesy to the public and fellow board members, Village Board Members must refrain from texting, e-mailing, and instant messaging during Board Meetings, except in the case of family emergencies.

Please note- During the course of regular business, discussion and commentary is limited to board members and village staff only. We ask for this courtesy, for the board and staff to conduct their business and discussion without interruption. All village board members and staff are available after the conclusion of a meeting for one on one discussion.

**VILLAGE BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

Monday, January 13, 2025

Regular Meeting began at 5:30 PM and ended at 6:45 PM

Meeting was held in person in the Village Board Room and was also available on zoom

**CALL TO ORDER**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Williams present; Trustee Brunette present; Trustee Ryan; present; Trustee Scollin present; Trustee White absent.

Staff also Present: Village Manager Bachana Tsiklauri and Village Clerk Amanda Hopf.

**AUDITING:**

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion to approve payment for the 2025 Budget \$273,526.30 batch number 1132025. Complete detail of these vouchers is attached and made part of these minutes.

Motion: Brunette Second: Scollin

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion to approve these minutes

Motion: Scollin Second: Ryan

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE**

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATE**

**PUBLIC HEARING: 2025-2026 Volunteer Fire Department Contract**

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion to open the Public Hearing

Motion: Ryan Second: Brunette

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

No Public Input

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion to close the Public Hearing

Motion: Scollin Second: Ryan

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Fred Balzak (see attached)

Mark Wilson (see attached)

Elizabeth Kochar (see attached)

David Ryan commended Rachel Karps work at the SL Chamber

Mary Agnes Pelletieri on cost effects of EMS facility projects

Dan Reilly status of existing Fire Department after EMS facility project

Steven Honnenberg financial viability for EMS facility project

Molly Hann (see attached)

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion to accept and place on file.

Motion: Scollin Second: Brunette

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**ITEMS FOR BOARD ACTION:**

**Bill 1-2025 Resolution authorizing the acceptance of the NYS DEC Water Quality Improvement (WQIP) Grant**

A copy of the bill is attached and made part of these minutes

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Brunette Second: Scollin

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**Bill 2-2025 Resolution to accept CFA Grant for Waterway Restoration Project**

A copy of the bill is attached and made part of these minutes

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Scollin Second: Ryan

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**Bill 3-2025 Resolution to authorize the Village Manager to permanently hire Ana Rottner-Ruiz as Account Clerk**

A copy of the bill is attached and made part of these minutes

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Brunette Second: Ryan

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**Bill 4-2025 Resolution to approve amendment to the Village of Saranac Lake Health Reimbursement Account for the PBA**

A copy of the bill is attached and made part of these minutes

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Scollin Second: Ryan

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**Bill 5-2025 Resolution authorizing the Village Manager to provisionally hire Jeremy Parent as HEO for Mount Pisgah**

A copy of the bill is attached and made part of these minutes

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Ryan Second: Scollin

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**Bill 6-2025 Resolution authorizing the 2025-2026 Saranac Lake Volunteer Fire Contract**

A copy of the bill is attached and made part of these minutes

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Scollin Second: Ryan

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin; yes; White absent; Williams yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION:**

Mark Wilson (see attached)

Ben Douglas Importance of inclusion of parks in planning capital improvement projects

**MOTION TO ADJURN:**

Chair Mayor Williams called for a motion

Motion: Ryan Second: Scollin

Roll Call: Brunette yes; Ryan yes; Scollin yes; White absent; Williams yes.

PUBLIC HEARING

EXEMPTION THE NEW SHORT-TERM  
RENTAL CAP FOR DISTRICT B-4

December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024

To the Community Development Director and the Saranac Lake Village Board of Trustees:

*RE: Application for an STR exemption to create a 1-bedroom STR at 421 Lake Flower Avenue.*

Lake Flower Landing LLC owns two adjacent properties in the Village of Saranac Lake. One of the two buildings is a single-family residence at 12 Colony Court. We once rented it as an STR but because of the housing shortage in Saranac Lake, we changed the home to a long-term rental in 2022 and chose not to pursue a “grandfathered” STR status for 12 Colony Court.

The adjacent property, also owned by Lake Flower Landing LLC, is zoned mixed use. We purchased the building in 2013 and underwent an very expensive 9-year gut-renovation, which included asbestos & lead remediation; removal of buried gas tanks out front; restructuring the building; re-orienting the stairway and bringing it up to code; removal of oil furnace, existing plumbing, electrical, windows, insulation, and flooring. To make the building energy efficient we added spray-foam, mini-split heat-pumps, and solar panels on the roof. In addition, a fire suppression sprinkler system was added, a new roof applied, the basement water-proofed and sump pumps installed.

During the renovation we re-configured the layout of the two apartments, the two-bedroom apartment became our main residence. It was always our intention that the 550 sq foot one bedroom apartment, would become an STR. We appointed both apartments with modern appliances. This all proved to be a much larger than the market value of the building and depleted our savings.

A Certificate of Occupancy was issued for the residential portion of the building in June 2023. Finally ready to list the one-bedroom as an STR, the Village’s moratorium on permits began. Renting the one-bedroom apartment as an STR is our model towards recouping our some of our expenses.

The storefront space doubles as our studio-gallery and an event space where we engage the community with weekly drawing sessions, concerts, film screenings, artist residencies, and literary & educational events, occasionally in partnership with local non-profits. We host visiting performers, artists and educators in the one-bedroom apartment which precludes us having a full-time tenant there. When it is not occupied, this is when we’d like it to be available as an STR. Hosting an STR is the economic model we had been planning on since the purchase of the property in 2013.

It was also our logic that having relinquished the STR at 12 Colony Court next door, we would be granted an STR permit for the one-bedroom apartment at 421 Lake Flower Avenue, in part because the small apartment is better suited for a transient stay.

Lastly, the unit that we are requesting an exemption for an STR permit is located in a building on a commercial corridor, between existing motels and hotels. The Village Board's determination that no new STR be allocated in District B4 is based exclusively on the number of less than 50 existing residential units and does not factor in the largely commercial nature of Lake Flower Avenue.

Respectfully,

Peter Seward

Karen Davidson Seward

Lake Flower Landing LLC.  
421 Lake Flower Ave

Handwritten signatures of Peter Seward and Karen Davidson Seward. The signature of Peter Seward is written above the signature of Karen Davidson Seward.



**Business of the Village Board  
Village of Saranac Lake**

SUBJECT: Allow sale of Alcohol at Party at Pisgah Event

Date: 1/27/2025

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Village Manager

Bill # 7-2025

DATE SUBMITTED: 1/17/2025

EXHIBITS:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Administration

EXPENDITURE  
REQUIRED:

AMOUNT  
BUDGETED:

APPROPRIATION  
REQUIRED:

Resolution to approve the sale of alcohol for the Party at Pisgah event on February, 28, 2025

MOVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE ON ROLL CALL:

MAYOR WILLIAMS \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE RYAN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE WHITE \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE SALE OF ALCOHOL FOR THE “PARTY AT  
PISGAH” EVENT ON FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

**WHEREAS**, the Village of Saranac Lake Village Manager is requesting the use of Mount Pisgah and permission of the sale of alcohol for the “Party at Pisgah” event on February 28, 2025, and,

**WHEREAS**, the Village will partner with local vendors for food and beverage during the “Party at Pisgah,” and,

**WHEREAS**, the parties involved will provide the necessary certificates of insurance naming the Village of Saranac Lake additionally insured, and,

**WHEREAS**, special event permits from the NYS Liquor Authority and Department of Health will be obtained by vendors and a copy of said permits will be placed on file with the Village.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Village Board of Trustees authorizes the sale of alcohol at the 2025 “Party at Pisgah” event.

**Event Name:** "Party at Pisgah"

**Date:** 02/28/2025 (Friday)

**Time:** 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM

**Description:** A community ski/snowboard/tubbing area joyful event, celebrating the current snow season. For the folks that currently do not have a Pisgah season pass, night Skiing is offered for \$5 only, for the whole day.

**Purpose:**

The event will take place at Mt. Pisgah, on the Village property. Pisgah Recreational Center (the lodge) will be open during the normal business hours of the mountain (3:00 PM – 8:00 PM), on Friday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The purpose of the event is to promote Mt. Pisgah's winter activities for the rest of the snow season and maximize the revenue while the guests (locals, neighbors, visitors) enjoy night skiing, music, food & beverages in a safe and joyful environment. All the Village generated income at the event will be used to cover the cost of operating and maintaining the mountain infrastructure. Additionally, the volunteer group, Friends of Mt. Pisgah (FOMP) will have an opportunity to promote the continuing FOMP-organized "Make it Snow!" fundraising campaign (<https://www.fompsl.org/donate>).



**Business of the Village Board  
Village of Saranac Lake**

SUBJECT: Authorize discounted Pisgah Pass Rate for Party at Pisgah Event

Date: 1/27/2025

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Village Manager

Bill # 8-2025

DATE SUBMITTED: 1/17/2025

EXHIBITS:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Administration

EXPENDITURE  
REQUIRED:

AMOUNT  
BUDGETED:

APPROPRIATION  
REQUIRED:

Resolution to authorize the Village Manager to offer discounted Ski Pass Tickets for  
"Party at Pisgah" event on February 28, 2025

MOVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE ON ROLL CALL:

MAYOR WILLIAMS \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE RYAN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE WHITE \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE MANAGER TO OFFER  
DISCOUNTED SKI TICKET RATES ON FEBRUARY 28, 2025**

WHEREAS, the Village Manager is requesting the discounted ski pass rates for the February 28, 2025 "Party at Pisgah," and,

WHEREAS, the "Party at Pisgah" event will help promote all winter activities that take place at Mount Pisgah, and,

WHEREAS, the discounted rate of \$5.00 for a day pass would be available from 3:00PM-8:00 PM.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Village Board of Trustees authorizes the discounted ski pass rate for the "Party at Pisgah" event.

**Business of the Village Board  
Village of Saranac Lake**

SUBJECT: DOT Emergency Shared Service Agreement

Date: 1/27/2025

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Village Manager

Bill # 9-2025

DATE SUBMITTED: 1/17/2025

EXHIBITS:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Administration

\_\_\_\_\_  
EXPENDITURE  
REQUIRED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
AMOUNT  
BUDGETED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPROPRIATION  
REQUIRED:

Resolution to authorize the Village Manager sign an emergency shared service agreement with the Department of Transportation

MOVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE ON ROLL CALL:

MAYOR WILLIAMS \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE RYAN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE WHITE \_\_\_\_\_



# Department of Transportation

**KATHY HOCHUL**  
Governor

**MARIE THERESE DOMINGUEZ**  
Commissioner

**KENNETH M. BIBBINS, P.E.**  
Regional Director

December 23, 2024

Village of Saranac Lake  
39 Main Street 2nd Floor  
Saranac Lake, N.Y. 12983  
Attn: Bachana Tsiklauri  
Village Manager

Dear Mr. Tsiklauri:

The New York State Department of Transportation is committed to assisting our Municipal partners in responding to emergencies that affect the transportation system. In the instance a local Highway System is impacted by an event, NYSDOT forces can normally only offer assistance when a Governor's Emergency Declaration has been made.

In the absence of a Governor's Emergency Declaration and/or suspension of Highway Law §55, NYSDOT forces can assist local Municipalities with issues on the local Highway System if a Shared Services Agreement has been entered into between the Municipality and New York State. By executing an Agreement beforehand, emergency needs on your Highway System can be addressed without having to wait for paperwork to be processed or an Emergency Declaration to be enacted.

You currently have an Emergency Shared Service Agreement which has expired, or will expire in 2025.

In order to have continued coverage of said agreement, we are inviting you to renew at this time. A new blank Shared Services Agreement form is attached. On page one under Item #4, please check your preferred term of agreement (check box 2- or 4-year), the start & end dates, then sign and date under the "MUNICIPALITY" at the bottom of the page. Schedule A on Page 2 should be left blank, as the emergency event would dictate what information is placed here.

Please return the signed Agreement to me at the following address:

New York State Department of Transportation  
ATTN: Mark Catalina, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Dulles State Office Building  
317 Washington St.  
Watertown, NY 13601

Once all signatures have been made an executed copy will be returned for your records.

If you have any questions on this matter, please feel free to contact me at:

Phone: (315) 221-5424

Email: [Mark.Catalina@dot.ny.gov](mailto:Mark.Catalina@dot.ny.gov)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Catalina". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "M".

Mark Catalina, P.E.T.

Operations Division, Region 7

Enclosure: Emergency Shared Service Agreement



**SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT**  
**Between**  
**NYS DOT and the Village of Saranac Lake**

THIS AGREEMENT, dated [REDACTED], 20[REDACTED], is between the People of the State of New York, hereinafter referred to as "State" or "NYS DOT" and the Village of Saranac Lake, hereinafter referred to as "Municipality." Pursuant to Section 99-r of the General Municipal Law, the State and the Municipality wish to share services, exchange or lend materials or equipment which shall promote and assist the maintenance of State and Municipal roads and highways and provide a cost savings by maximizing the effective utilization of both parties' resources. Shared Services shall mean any service provided by one party (Provider) to another party (Recipient). The State and the Municipality agree to share services as follows:

1. Description and Cost of Services, Materials or Equipment to be shared: Provide details of the services, materials or equipment to be shared in the attached standard Schedule A. The total amount of the agreement shall not exceed twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000.00). If applicable, indicate that the return exchange will be determined at a later date.
2. The Provider's employees shall remain under full supervision and control of the Provider. The parties shall remain fully responsible for their own employees for all matters, including but not limited to, salary, insurance, benefits and Workers Compensation.
3. If the borrowed machinery or equipment is damaged or otherwise needs repair arising out of or in connection with the Recipient's use, the Recipient shall be responsible for such repairs.
4. The Municipality agrees to defend and indemnify the State for any and all claims arising out of the Municipality's acts or omissions under this Agreement. The term of this Agreement shall be for two (2)  or four (4)  years from [REDACTED] to [REDACTED]. The parties will endeavor to provide no less than thirty (30) days' notice of its intent to extend the Agreement. Either party may revoke this Agreement by providing sixty (60) days written notice of such revocation. Upon revocation, any outstanding obligations of the parties must be satisfied within thirty (30) days of the date of such revocation.

NYS DOT – Region 07

MUNICIPALITY

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ryan Davies  
Acting Franklin County Resident Engineer

By: [REDACTED] Date: [REDACTED]  
Title: [REDACTED]

NYS DOT – Region 07

By: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Regional Director of Operations

**SCHEDULE A**

NYSDOT

Description of  services,  materials, or  equipment (Check All that apply) to be shared:

*Emergency Services for Undeclared Emergencies to be Determined*

Estimated Cost/Value of  services,  materials, or  equipment (Check All that apply):

*To Be Determined*

Total NYSDOT Cost/Value: \_\_\_\_\_

MUNICIPALITY

Description of  services,  materials, or  equipment (Check All that apply) to be shared:

*To be Determined*

Estimated Cost/Value of  services,  materials, or  equipment (Check All that apply):

*To Be Determined*

Total MUNICIPALITY Cost/Value: \_\_\_\_\_

**Business of the Village Board  
Village of Saranac Lake**

SUBJECT: PTAB Officer Appointment

Date: 1/27/2025

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Trustee White

Bill # 10-2025

DATE SUBMITTED: 1/17/2025

EXHIBITS:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Administration

EXPENDITURE  
REQUIRED: \$

AMOUNT  
BUDGETED: \$

APPROPRIATION  
REQUIRED: \$

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUMMARY STATEMENT:

A resolution to reappoint Steve Langdon as Secretary and appoint Colleen O'Neill as Chair and Ezra Schwartzberg as Vice Chair of the Parks & Trails Advisory Board.

MOVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE ON ROLL CALL:

MAYOR WILLIAMS \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE RYAN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE WHITE \_\_\_\_\_

**RESOLUTION TO REAPPOINT MEMBERS TO THE DOWNTOWN ADVISORY BOARD**

WHEREAS, terms for the officers of the Parks & Trails Advisory Board expire at the end of the year;  
and

WHEREAS, members Steve Langdon, Colleen O'Neill and Ezra Schwartzberg, would like to serve as the officers for the Parks & Trails Advisory Board for a year term; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees hereby reappoints Steve Langdon as Secretary and appoints Colleen O'Neill as Chair and Ezra Schwartzberg as Vice Chair of the Parks & Trails Advisory Board for a term that is in accordance with the Bylaws.

**Business of the Village Board  
Village of Saranac Lake**

SUBJECT: Ski Race Discount Passes

Date: 1/27/2025

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Village Manager

Bill # 11-2025

DATE SUBMITTED: 1/23/2025

EXHIBITS:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Village Administration

EXPENDITURE  
REQUIRED: \$

AMOUNT  
BUDGETED: \$

APPROPRIATION  
REQUIRED: \$

\_\_\_\_\_  
SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Authorize the Village Manager to approve the proposal for discounted Day tickets for registered ski races at Mount Pisgah

MOVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ SECONDED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

VOTE ON ROLL CALL:

MAYOR WILLIAMS \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE RYAN \_\_\_\_\_

TRUSTEE WHITE \_\_\_\_\_



## **Proposal for Discounted Day Tickets for Registered Ski Racers**

### **Objective:**

We are requesting the Village Board's approval for a 50% discount on day tickets for registered ski racers participating in races hosted by the Saranac Lake Ski Club. While the Ski Club is organizing 3 races this season, we are seeking approval to offer this discount for all races hosted by the Club going forward. Discounted tickets for racers were previously offered, but this benefit has not been available for the past several years. We are asking the Board to reinstate this discount for future races, starting with the 2025 season.

### **Proposal Details:**

#### **Event Participation:**

Ski races can attract 150-200 racers to Mt. Pisgah, generating a significant profit for the mountain even with the discount. Additionally, families attending the races will pay the full ticket price. A ski race with 150 racers paying \$20 each could generate \$3,000 in ticket sales, in addition to the revenue from other patrons enjoying the rest of the mountain.

#### **Standard Practice:**

Providing discounted or special pricing for registered ski racers is a common practice among ski resorts to encourage participation and support the racing community. Mt. Pisgah previously offered discounted day ticket rates for racers, but this benefit was discontinued two years ago. The removal of this discount has negatively impacted our ability to attract larger ski races.

#### **Long-Term Benefits:**

Introducing racers and their families to Mt. Pisgah fosters familiarity and encourages future visits, potentially increasing long-term patronage.

#### **Discount Specifics:**

We propose offering a 50% discount on day tickets exclusively to registered racers during event days. Racers would need to present their race bib to Mt. Pisgah staff in order to receive the discount, or tickets could be purchased in bulk by coaches ahead of race day.

#### **Financial Considerations:**

Although racers would receive discounted tickets, accompanying family members and spectators will still purchase full-priced tickets. Additionally, the discounted tickets could attract more ski teams to train at Mt. Pisgah, as our White Stag run offers the ideal length and pitch for slalom training.



## **Overview of Ski Club Races and Their Impact:**

### **White Stag Ski Race:**

- A decades-old Winter Carnival tradition, this race is deeply rooted in Mt. Pisgah's history. The White Stag is an event for all ages that embodies everything Saranac Lake represents — coming together as a community and celebrating a shared love for the outdoors. It is also an affordable entry point into ski racing for community members who cannot afford NYSEF. By growing ski races at Mt. Pisgah, we are building a foundation for the sport in the region, ensuring the mountain's long-term viability.

### **Top of the Mountain:**

- The Top of the Mountain Race, held in March, is a proud milestone for our youngest skiers, offering them the chance to conquer the mountain's peak. Leading up to this event, our weekly Candy Bar Races allow skiers ages 2–12 to practice their turns on the gentler Buttermilk slope. Each week, the course is extended, and its difficulty increases, preparing participants to tackle the steeper White Stag side by season's end. This race fosters confidence, skills, and a love for skiing.

### **NYSEF:**

- There has not been a sanctioned NYSEF race at Mt. Pisgah for several years, but the efforts of FOMP and the Saranac Lake Ski Club have rebuilt one of the most vital relationships that generate income for the mountain. Since many racers and their families visit the area for competitions, hosting NYSEF races at Mt. Pisgah — instead of exclusively at Whiteface — encourages additional spending in our community on lodging, dining, and other local expenditures.

### **Conclusion:**

Implementing a 50% discount for registered ski racers aligns with industry standards and offers both economic and community benefits. By not offering any discount for racers, we risk limiting one of the key drivers of the skiing industry — attracting competitive races — which ultimately impacts the mountain's ability to grow and sustain its long-term viability.

Local Law 1-2025

Be it Resolved, Chapter 106 of the Village of Saranac Lake Code is hereby amended as follows:

Section 106-6 Definitions.

ADD:

**SHORT-TERM RENTAL, OWNER-OCCUPIED**

An STR which is located on the same parcel as a dwelling unit that is used as the primary residence of the homeowner, and the location where the taxes are filed. Primary residence is defined as occupancy for more than 183 days per calendar year.

Section 106-104.3 Short-term rentals.

C. Short-term rental permit cap.

DELETE:

(3) Exemptions to the caps may be granted by the Board of Trustees under special circumstances such as new construction and rehabilitation of a derelict or dilapidated building. Any exemption to the caps that may be granted by the Board of Trustees shall first require a public hearing.

ADD:

(3) Exemptions to the cap may be granted by the Board of Trustees when it meets one or more of the following criteria:

1. New construction. The construction of a new building that includes at least one (1) dwelling unit.
2. Addition. An addition to an existing building that includes the creation of at least one (1) dwelling unit and which results in the net addition of at least one (1) dwelling unit in the building.
3. Substantial improvement. The repair, alteration or addition of a building, the cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the building, before the repair, alteration or addition is started, and which results in the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for at least one (1) dwelling unit in the building.
4. Repair or alteration of an unsafe building. The repair or alteration of a building or dwelling unit deemed unsafe and/or unfit for human occupancy by the Code Enforcement Officer and which results in the issuance of a certificate of occupancy for the building and at least one (1) dwelling unit in the building.

Any exemption to the caps that may be granted by the Board of Trustees shall first require a public hearing.

(4) Owner-occupied short term rentals are exempt from the rental permit cap.

D. (1) General STR permit regulations.

ADD:

(k) Owner-occupied STR change in status. When the primary residence of the owner of an approved owner-occupied short term rental changes, the STR permit shall expire at the end of the calendar year and shall not be eligible for renewal.

G. (1) Application process.

ADD:

(k) For owner-occupied STR applications, submit proof of residency at the location where the STR is proposed. (Proof of residency: copy of driver's license or voter/tax registration form).