

Media Release

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Contact:

Amy Catania

Executive Director

HISTORIC SARANAC LAKE

(518) 891-4606

amy@historicsaranaclake.org

“HISTORY MATTERS” TALK TO FOCUS ON THE HISTORY OF THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

Saranac Lake, NY -- On May 17 at 7:00 p.m., Historic Saranac Lake will present the first of three seminars in May. Sandy Hayes and Steve Erman will discuss the history of the Adirondack Park Agency. Jim Hotaling will moderate the discussion.

Sanford C. (Sandy) Hayes III has 49 years in real estate since age 20 and has a long history of opposing the Adirondack Park Agency. Mr. Hayes says, “I plan to give my prospective on how the APA has evolved over the nearly 40 years of its existence and give my opinion on good and bad parts of the regulations. There were several valid reasons for some sort of land use planning and control, however some of the regulations, even today, seem unjustified. I will give pro and con examples.”

Mr. Hayes is presently the longest licensed active real estate salesperson in Essex, Franklin or Clinton County, and the sole owner of Sandy Hayes Realty since 1968. His primary focus on development of rural properties into planned subdivisions. Mr. Hayes has been involved in the APA permitting process since August 1972, prior to the official enactment of APA Rules and Regulations on May 22, 1973. He was served with the first APA Cease and Desist Work Order in 1974. He was arrested in 1975 by the NY State Police for an APA violation, illegal land sales. He was acquitted by Essex County Grand Jury of all charges resulting of interpretation of and changes to APA law.

Steve Erman was the APA’s Special Assistant for Economic Affairs from 1982 until he left State service in late August 2010. In this position, he provided analytical support to the Agency’s regulatory and planning programs. He also worked closely with successive State administrations in defining the Agency’s work programs in support of regional and community economic improvement. During his 28 years on the staff of the Adirondack Park Agency, Erman witnessed

and participated in a wide range of changes at the Agency as it matured. He remains closely involved with regional economic issues as President of the Board of the Adirondack North Country Association, based in Saranac Lake.

Discussion moderator, Jim Hotaling, was hired in March of 1977 by the APA at the age of 35 as an architect and land use planner with experience in campus planning, city planning and as a project manager and partner of a private planning and landscape architecture firm. At a time of considerable tension, as Chief of Local Government Services, he was tasked with involving towns and villages in a more substantive way in land use planning. The Agency's small staff of community planners spent much time 'on the road' in literally hundreds of meetings, working with local boards, consultants, and other State agencies, as well the Agency's legal, natural resource and project review staff. The local planning assistance program evolved over time as towns and villages developed programs, from basic mapping and survey work to local plans and regulations and field workshops.

The "History Matters" seminars meet three Thursdays in May at 7:00 p.m. in the John Black Room of the Saranac Laboratory, 89 Church Street, Saranac Lake. The series is presented by Historic Saranac Lake in collaboration with Paul Smith's College. Entrance is \$5 / person, members of Historic Saranac Lake free. Light refreshments will be provided.

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