



Friends of Eagle Island, Inc.

WHERE HISTORY MEETS THE FUTURE

PRESS RELEASE

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Saranac Lake, NY (January 16, 2017) — On Thursday, January 12, the Town Board of Santa Clara voted unanimously to amend the local Land Use Code to reestablish group camping on Eagle Island, located on Upper Saranac Lake.

Friends of Eagle Island (FEI) has been in discussions with the Town of Santa Clara to reestablish group camping on Eagle Island through a petition to amend the Land Use Code thereby enabling our treasured camp to re-open. This multi-step process has been quite involved; preparing and filing a petition for an Amendment with the Town Board, review of the Amendment by the Planning Board, a Public Hearing on December 8 and the vote by the Town Board.

The resolution adopting the amendment set forth specific restrictions to limit the use to the "historic uses" which include all activities that campers and others remember: traditional summer camp, family camp, work and women's weekends, low impact water activities, with limited/scheduled access for historic tours.

FEI appreciates all the tremendous work done by everyone involved and sincerely thanks the Town of Santa Clara Board, our many supporters, attorneys, and partners.

This action puts FEI and Eagle Island one step closer to its goal of instituting camp in 2018 and opens many doors for fund development and future partnerships. While there is still major work to be done and funds to be raised in 2017 to transition from the planning stage to a work phase. FEI is thrilled to have started out the new year with such good news and we are confident in our ability to make it happen.

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