

PTAB Annual Report 2016-2017



Parks Trails and Advisory Board

Saranac Lake, NY

CONTENTS

- Board Members.....Pages 3-4
- Bike & Pedestrian Infrastructure.....Page 5
- PTAB Projects.....Pages 6-9
- Community Projects.....Page 9-11
- Community Events.....Pages 12-15
- Grant Awards.....Page 16
- 2018 Priorities.....Page 16

Cover photo: Dewey Mountain bike club members @ Mt. Pisgah

BOARD MEMBERS



Lindy Ellis

Lindy bikes, cross country skis, and hikes. She supports the PTAB because it helps everyone in Saranac Lake be more active, with recommendations on healthy infrastructure.



Andrea Audi

Andrea likes to hike the low peaks with her dogs and ski the flats. She is an avid gardener and the past Director of Common Ground Gardens in Saranac Lake. She maintains an active reading list on issues pertaining walkable cities, smart growth, public art, vibrant downtowns, and sustainable development.



Maria Deangelo

Maria is a proud public school teacher at Saranac Lake Middle School. She grew up hiking and running on the trails and hills in and around the Potterkill Preserve in Rotterdam, NY. She loves to race the Saranac Lake Fun Run each week of the summer with the great families of SL, and live in a beautiful Village where walking, hiking, running, snowshoeing and skiing are steps from our doors.



Marijke Ormel

Marijke uses her bicycle year round for transportation to work and errands around town. She has led efforts to make Adirondack Health more bicycle friendly for staff and visitors and is on PTAB to help make Saranac Lake friendly for people of all ages on bikes.



Tom Boothe

Tom is a biker and all-around outdoor and Saranac Lake enthusiast. Making Saranac Lake Village nicer for human powered travel is a great thing to contribute to.



Jordanna Mallach

Jordanna lives in Saranac Lake near Ampersand Park and the civic center two places where she spends lots of time. She enjoys skiing at both Dewey Mountain and Mount Pisgah and walking and biking to school with her 10 year old daughter.



Jason Smith

Healthy and alternative ways of transportation and recreation are important to my family and me. Providing access to safe and user friendly areas for biking, walking, skiing, and snowshoeing is what led me to volunteering my time to PTAB.

Parks Trail and Advisory Board was established in 2009. PTAB is a seven member advisory board. PTAB's purpose is to make recommendations to the Saranac Lake Village Board on policy and implementation that support and promote healthy lifestyles through healthy infrastructure.

BIKE & PEDESTRIAN INFRASTRUCTURE



Trails

1.31 miles of new trails were constructed in 2016-2017



Bikeways

DOT added 0.7 miles of shared lane markings to the bicycle network on Bloomingdale Ave & Broadway. Saranac Lake now has 2.9 total miles of bike ways.



Sidewalks

480 linear feet of sidewalk were replaced by DPW

PTAB PROJECTS

- Bicycle & pedestrian network maps were created
- The blank out no-right-on-red signs were installed at the Main & River St. Intersection
- Crosswalk Improvements on Petrova Avenue were implemented

2016 Compass Rose & 6er Logo Painting



Thanks DAB!



Epoxy ladder bar crosswalks were installed at Petrova School & Downtown



Wayfinding Signage

Wayfinding maps were installed around Saranac Lake, including at the Riverwalk entrance, Berkeley Green, Riverside Park, and the downtown Parking lot. The signs have two sides with maps of streets, and points of interest. They have been supported by numerous businesses, organizations, and individual sponsors. Directional wayfinding signs have also been installed at various intersections throughout the village. More signs will be installed in 2018. PTAB is still seeking sponsors for additional signs.



PTAB PROJECTS

Parks Vision Plan

The Village of Saranac Lake was awarded \$30,000 in LWRP funding to create a Parks Vision Plan for eleven village parks. In 2016, PTAB held public input meetings at each park and collected surveys. The parks in the plan include:

Ampersand Park
Baldwin Park
Berkeley Green
Mt. Pisgah
Prescott & Riverfront Parks
Riverside Park
Riverwalk
SkatePark
Ward Plumador Park
William Morris Park/Carousel
William Wallace Park/Lake Colby Beach



PTAB analyzed all of the public input collected and identified priority projects for each park. The Village hired The Chazen Companies to create conceptual designs and renderings for each park vision.

Complete Streets Policy & Checklist

PTAB worked with the Department of Public Works and Village Manager to draft a Complete Streets Policy which was adopted by the Village Board of Trustees. A Complete Streets Checklist was also created. The checklist is used during the planning phase of all infrastructure projects to ensure that the needs of bicyclists and pedestrians are considered. To date, 6 road projects have been reviewed using the checklist.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS



43 acres were added to Dewey Mountain Recreation Center which will be used to expand the trail network. 1.31 miles of new trails were added to Dewey Mountain in 2017.

Thanks Dewey Mtn Friends,
Harrietstown & BETA!

Saranac Lake SkatePark Completed

The volunteer Skate Park Committee completed the Skate Park in 2016. Skateboarders use the park, even in the “snowless” winter months. Skateboard use was greater than 30 users a day, with 5 to 20 users at any given time during the spring, summer and fall months. Two Skateboard competitions were held in 2016. The Village of Saranac Lake hosted skate clinics, where experienced skaters volunteered their time to coach younger skaters. Three experienced skateboarders (Ben Karkowski, Evan Davis, and Nick Orten) gave 32 skate board clinics to our local boys and girls this summer. Ives McCarty was instrumental in advertising and getting the park ready for these lessons. Key Donors are recognized with a boulder and bronze plaque. The wild flower garden was expanded, providing a welcome place in the center of Saranac Lake.



Thanks Skatepark
Committee!

Safe Routes To School (SR2S)



- Saranac Lake Police Department in partnership with Traffic Safety provided education to 50 kids at the Saranac Lake Summer Youth Program.
- Kiwanis Club gave out 65 helmets at the June Bike Rodeo. 90 kids attended.
- Walker the SR2S chicken walked to school with 50 students during 2 events in Saranac Lake.
- Signs with distances to the schools were posted in neighborhoods throughout Saranac Lake.
- Stencils of the SR2S logo were painted on sidewalks along routes to school by students.



In 2017 over 70 kids from Petrova Elementary participated in the walk to school event

Thank You Healthy Heart
Network & Petrova!

Results:

There has been a study to show an increase in the number of kids that walk to school during special events with Walker in Saranac Lake from 2015-2017. Percentage of students walking/biking to or from school remained steady around 6%-8% at Petrova.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Bike Rides



PTAB members and other volunteers led group rides in 2016 & 2017.



Cycle Adirondack Participants

- 200 Cyclists from 33 different states and providences
- 70% were first time visitors to the Adirondacks

World Championship Snowshoe Races



- Over 400 athletes participated on a 1.5-acre parcel that bordered Dewey Mountain and the adjacent state Armory.
- The cross country ski and snowshoe recreation center became the focal point of the first-ever world championships held in the United States, with the largest field in the event's history.



Fun Runs in Riverside Park

The fun runs take place every Thursday evening at Riverside park during the summer months.



An average of 79 racers compete each week and many more people are drawn to the park as spectators.



Turkey Trot

Event held annually at Bitters & Bones

Over 200 participants in 2016



Over 300 participants in 2017



GRANT AWARDS

- Adirondack Park Smart Growth Implementation grant award of \$75,000 to construct the Saranac Lake southern gateway multi-use trail. The trail will connect the proposed Rail Trail to Lake Flower Avenue businesses.
- Eastern Adirondack Health Care Network's Built Environment Program awarded \$5,600 to the Village of Saranac Lake for the purchase of the bank-out no-right-on-red signs at the intersection of Main and River Streets.

2018 PRIORITIES

- Continue the wayfinding signage program
- Complete the Parks Vision Plan
- Draft Bike & Pedestrian network project summaries
- Continue implementation of Bike & Pedestrian Master Plan
- Support & promote active lifestyle events

