

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

SUBJECT: Boothe River Park

Date: 10/28/2024

DEPT OF ORIGIN: Trustee Brunette

Bill # 163-2024

DATE SUBMITTED: 10/24/2024

EXHIBITS: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Village Attorney

Village Administration

EXPENDITURE
REQUIRED:

AMOUNT
BUDGETED:

APPROPRIATION
REQUIRED:

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

Resolution to amend the "Tom Boothe Whitewater Park" name to "Boothe River Park"

MOVED BY: White SECONDED BY: Brunette

VOTE ON ROLL CALL:

MAYOR WILLIAMS

yes

TRUSTEE RYAN

yes

TRUSTEE WHITE

yes

TRUSTEE SCOLLIN

absent

TRUSTEE BRUNETTE

yes

Whereas, the Village of Saranac Lake Board of Trustees previously passed Bill #25-2022 on February 28, 2022, to accept sponsorship of the whitewater park located in downtown Saranac Lake, recognizing the late Tom Boothe's pivotal role in bringing this project to fruition; and

Whereas, the original resolution included a condition naming the facility "Tom Boothe Whitewater Park" in honor of Boothe's leadership and dedication; and

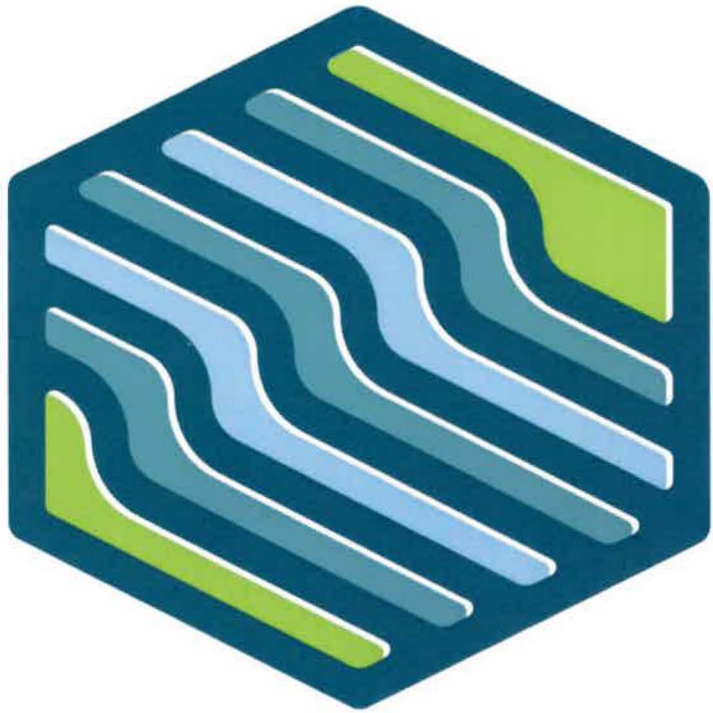
Whereas, the volunteer group "Friends of the Tom Boothe Whitewater Park" has proposed a name alteration to ensure the park reflects its intended use, enhancing the park's public appeal and broadening its identity beyond whitewater; and

Whereas, whitewater parks are typically associated with challenging river sports, while river parks offer more inclusive recreational opportunities, free and accessible to the public, encouraging greater community engagement and use of the park; and

Whereas, the group proposes the new name "Boothe River Park" as a way to honor Tom Boothe while simultaneously aligning the park's branding with its diverse offerings;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the Village of Saranac Lake Board of Trustees hereby approves the amendment to the facility's name, updating it from "Tom Boothe Whitewater Park" to "Boothe River Park"; and

Be It Further Resolved, that all references to the facility in future Village documents, signage, and promotional materials will reflect the new name "Boothe River Park," and the professional graphic design provided by the "Friends of the Tom Boothe Whitewater Park" group will be adopted for future branding.



BOOTHE
RIVER PARK
SARANAC LAKE, NEW YORK

On behalf of the Saranac Lake Board of Trustees, I am writing to express our concern regarding two urgent infrastructure needs that significantly affect our community and its safety.

Firstly, we would like to address the deteriorating condition of the retaining wall along State Route 3 as you enter Saranac Lake from Bloomingdale. This area serves as the primary gateway to our village and is integral to the visual appeal of our community. Unfortunately, the retaining wall has been an eyesore and has shown signs of neglect and structural compromise. We strongly believe this area needs immediate attention; allowing it to crumble further poses safety risks for residents and visitors. The perception of safety and beauty at our "entrance" directly impacts our community's image, tourism, and overall pride. We urge the DOT to prioritize the maintenance and enhancement of this retaining wall.

Secondly, we want to advocate for a designated sidewalk crossing on Lake Flower Avenue leading to Baldwin Park. This park is undergoing renovations, and we are excited to also incorporate a new, ADA-compliant kayak launch. However, without safe access from the only sidewalk to the park, many community members and visitors will be unable to fully enjoy the park and its amenities. The lack of a safe crossing puts pedestrians at risk and potentially discourages our community and visitors from utilizing this valuable space. A crosswalk would enhance safety and encourage the use of our scenic park.

These infrastructure improvements reflect our commitment to the well-being and safety of all individuals in Saranac Lake, both residents and visitors alike. We appreciate your attention to these critical matters, and we hope you will prioritize these projects for the benefit of our community.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Sean Ryan

Saranac Lake Village Trustee