

Adirondack Defender

In Defense of the People of the Adirondacks

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100 Local Governments Statewide Organizations Pass Resolutions

ABOLISH APA

Adirondack Counties To Completely Abolish the A.P.A.:
St. Lawrence, Clinton, Lewis Franklin, Essex, Fulton, Schoharie in the Catskills

Adirondack Counties to severely curtail A.P.A.:
Hamilton and Washington, Delaware Co. against land use control.

Organizations to Abolish the Adirondack Park Agency:

- New York State Supervisors and County Legislators Association
- Organization of Adirondack County Governments
- New York State Organizations of Villages and Towns
- United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
- Northeastern New York Taxpayers Association, Inc.
- Building and Construction Trade Council
- Teamsters Union
- 52 Chapters of the Farm Bureau
- Warren County Council of Chambers of Commerce
- Roman Catholic Priests Senate
- Diocese of Ogdensburg
- N.Y. State Organization of Realtors
- N.Y. State Organization of County Officers

TOWNS AND VILLAGES

- | | |
|--------------|---------------|
| AuSable | Crown Point |
| Altona | Dannemora |
| Altamont | Diana |
| Bangor | Duane |
| Belmont | Edinburg |
| Black Brook | Elizabethtown |
| Bloomington | Ellenburgh |
| Broadalbin | Ephrata |
| Brighton | Fine |
| Bombay | Forestport |
| Bovina | Franklin |
| Caroga | Greig |
| Chester | Hague |
| Chesterfield | Harrietstown |
| Clare | Masonville |
| Clifton | Hopkinton |
| Consville | Horicon |
| Forest Park | Indian Lake |
| Colton | Jay |
| Croghan | |

(Continued on Page 3)

What they are saying

PRIESTS SENATE

... The APA in the administration of its duties had caused unrest and social conflict. ... The Senate of Priests supports the actual repeal of the APA. ... We call upon the Priests' Senates and Councils of the Dioceses of New York State to join us. ..."

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY

... The Adirondack Park Agency law has taken private land rights without compensation. ... implemented the severest land use controls in effect in this country and has failed to consider the human resources and needs of the residents of the Park. ..."

SCHOHARIE COUNTY

... There have been recent attempts to set up regional land use controls within the Catskill Park area similar to those adopted by the Adirondack Park Agency. The Board of Supervisors respectfully requests that the New York State Legislature support the bill to abolish the APA. ..."

TOWN OF STAMFORD

... We believe that the government closest to the people best serves the interest of all the people. Regional land use regulations cannot serve the interest of the individual landowner. ..."

VILLAGE OF MALONE

... The Adirondack Park Agency has become a dictatorial element in the northern area. It has become an element which has hindered progress. ..."

NYS FARM BUREAU

... The extension of the police power of the State now applicable to private land within the blue line establishes a dangerous precedent for all private landowners in N.Y.S. ... The Board of Directors unanimously approve a motion favoring repeal of the law (A.P.A.). ..."

NYS SUPERVISORS AND LEGISLATORS

... The regional governing agency known as the Adirondack Park Agency be abolished and a regional planning agency be passed into law to assist and help local government to plan their own communities. ..."

ELIZABETHTOWN TOWN BOARD

... We respectfully request that the Honorable Hugh Carey, Governor of the State of New York, use his good office and influence in securing passage by the New York State Legislature of the appropriate laws repealing the laws creating the Adirondack Park Agency."

BLOOMINGDALE VILLAGE

... It has become evident to the Village of Bloomingdale that the act establishing the Adirondack Park Agency is an infringement on individual constitutional rights. ..."

BANGOR TOWN BOARD

... The APA has had a severe effect on the local tax base and has served to stifle economic growth and development of Franklin County. ..."

(Continued on Page 8)



The first political publication ever distributed to the "common people" in America was "Thomas Paine's common sense pamphlets" in 1776. In that spirit on this bicentennial year, this publication is being distributed to American citizens who are again being oppressed, this time by The Adirondack Park Agency, instead of King George.

This publication is dedicated to regaining the freedom and rights the people of the Adirondacks have lost under the Adirondack Park PRIVATE LAND USE PLAN.

Carey Declares War Against Adirondacks

Adirondackers oppose the current APA recommended Bill in the Legislature referred to as the Governor's Bill and Supported by Gov. Carey because:

1. It only helps the Agency with their problems.
2. It does not relieve any of the major problems that concern Adirondack citizens.
3. It makes the APA law worse than it is now.

If this Bill is passed into law, Adirondackers will be further outraged.

The most effective thing we can do right now is to oppose the emerging legislative bill for changes, which will only strengthen the Agency and weaken the position of Adirondack citizens.

We don't want criminal changed to civil. We want the privilege of a jury trial.

The law is unenforceable now, and that would make it enforceable, against hundreds of present violators.

(Continued on Page 7)

Editor's Note: We have copies of 94 resolutions in our files with more to come.

Priests Senate say abolish APA

Church Moves Against A.P.A.

(Ogdensburg, N.Y. May 18, 1976)

In a classically worded statement of concern for the people of the Adirondacks, the Priest's Senate of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, covering most of the Adirondack Park, unanimously passed a resolution to abolish the APA.

There is good reason to believe that other church bodies throughout the state of New York are preparing similar resolutions to abolish the APA.

Priest's Senate resolution —

"WHEREAS, the present exercise of authority as vested in the Adirondack Park Agency is found by the majority of those living within the Blue Line to be contrary to their common good, and even contrary to the preservation of that environment the Agency is designed to protect;

"WHEREAS, this same Agency in the administration of its duties has caused emotional aggravation, civil unrest and social conflict;

"WHEREAS, the representative bodies of the citizens of the Adirondack region have with virtual unanimity rejected the concept of the Adirondack Park Agency.

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of Priests of the Diocese of Ogdensburg opposes the continuation of the Adirondack Park Agency as present constituted, and calls upon the Governor of the State of New York and the State Legislature to act swiftly and forthrightly to limit the excessive power of the Adirondack Park Agency until suitable structures may be created, with the consent and participation of the people directly affected, which will protect both the environment and the personal rights of the people living in that environment;

"BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate of Priests supports the actual repeal of the Adirondack Park Agency authorization, and urges the participation of all citizens in developing responsible stewardship of our ecology.

"We call upon the Priests' Senates and Councils of the Diocese of New York State to join us in adopting these or similar resolutions. And we urge that church facilities be offered by pastors in the Adirondack area for neutral discussion and fair hearing of the issues voiced by the citizens of the Park in a just and civil manner."

The original resolution was presented to the senate at their May meeting by Rev. Stephen H. Gratto. Fr. Gratto is a member of the Peace and Justice Committee of the Senate of Priests, and Delegate to the statewide Priest's Peace and Justice committee. He is presently a member of the staff of Catholic Charities in Ogdensburg, N.Y. and Asst. Pastor of St. Patricks Church, Brasher Falls, N.Y. Thank you, Fr. Gratto

UPDATE Ogdensburg, N.Y.

The priest's Senate met with the executive director of the APA, Mr. Richard Persico and members of his staff at the June meeting of the senate.

After listening to the APA's staff presentation of their side of this controversy, the priest's senate members repeated their stand and held to their resolution to abolish the APA.

May 1st Saranac Lake meeting was a farce

The meeting held on May 1st in Saranac Lake by the Environmental Conservation Committee of the Assembly, chaired by G. Oliver Koppell was a complete sham and absolute proof that the principle of representative democracy is not working in New York State.

Of the Committee's nineteen members, who profess such great concern for the Adirondack Park, only one out-of-park representative bothered to attend the meeting and he was G. Oliver Koppell the chairman. Mr. Koppell obviously came to the meeting with a pre-determined opinion and left with his opinion changed very little.

This being the nineteenth public hearing, Mr. Koppell had completely missed the previous eighteen chapters and, therefore, had little understanding of the complete picture of the APA plot to the story.

Mr. Koppell concerned himself with such completely insignificant matters as to how the Agency measures waterfront, while at the same time ignored the big important issues, such as 80-year-old Mrs. Wood who appeared in the audience, represented by Mrs. Cantwell, not able to build a one-family home for some two years. Or, of the other long list of major problems of the APA, such as:

- A 1 family home held up 11 months on a grandfathered APA approved lot.
- 142 days wait from time of application to public hearing on May 22, 1976
- 40 acres of wasted land per one family home.
- Unreasonable ex post facto shoreline restrictions
- Hide your home from the view of a canoeist
- 20 per cent unemployment
- low per capita income
- Waste of 1 million tax dollars
- APA damage to our fragile economy
- too much government
- Taking the use of private land without compensation
- Agency allows raw sewage to be dumped into our waters.
- on going abuse of citizens into May 1976.

Mr. Daniel Haley, Assemblyman representing part of the Adirondack Park, was in New Jersey on May 1st rather than here in the Adirondack Park where he belonged. Mr. Haley has been a strong proponent and puppet of the environmental group for a long time and certainly an enemy of Adirondack citizens. Recent support by Mr. Haley of insignificant changes in the law is only a desperate effort (by Mr. Haley) to save his own skin in an attempt to be re-elected.

Mr. Bernard Smith, Chairman of the Senate Committee, who is completely uninformed of the Adirondack problems but who is a prime policy maker on such matters, as well as all of the members of his committee also saw fit not to attend any of the previous eighteen public APA hearings, and also not to attend the nineteenth on May 1st.

For some five years, Adirondack citizens have peacefully sought a political solution to the APA problem. They have compiled mountains of testimony, marched on Albany and attended nineteen major public hearings, all of which has fallen on disinterested, uninformed, deaf ears in Albany. It would be entirely in order, having failed in peaceful political protest, for Adirondack citizens to turn to other methods in the near future.

Know Your Enemy

These people are enemies of Adirondack citizens. They are engaged in the APA scheme that violates our Constitutional Rights and Civil Liberties —

Peter Paine, N.Y.C. Lawyer; Peter Berle, N.Y.C. Lawyer; Assn. G. Oliver Koppell, N.Y.C. Lawyer; Sen. Bernard Smith, N.Y.C. Lawyer; G. Gordon Davis, Big City Lawyer; Richard Persico, Albany Lawyer; Warren Anderson, Binghamton Lawyer; Arthur Savage, N.Y.C. Lawyer; Judge Shea, Lawyer; Richard Lawrence, APA Lawyer; Douglas Ward, APA Lawyer; Bill Kissell, ex APA Lawyer; Dick Boothe, ex APA Lawyer; Robert Glennon, APA

Lawyer; Stanley Fishman, Albany Lawyer; Hugh L. Carey, Gov. (for now);

Why is a so-called "Environmental Movement" made up of so many "Big City Lawyers"? Who else could make a legal land grab?

Is it possible that psydo environmentalists are in it for the money? Have they found a new lucrative Racket — the Environment racket?

Enemies of the Second Magnatude Bob Flacke; Dan Haley, Assm.; Marilyn Duboise, lobbyist; Mary Prime, APA Comm.; New York Times; Adirondack Life; Albany Times; Courtney Jones; Richard Purdue; and Warren Anderson, Sen.

Towns, Villages— Abolish (Continued from Page 1)

Pulname	Johnstown
Remsen	Keene
Russell	Lyonsdale
St. Armand	Moriah
Santa Calara	Malone Villae
Schroon	Malone Town
Stratford	North Hampton
Thurman	Northville
Ticonderoga	Ohio
Tupper Lake	Oppenheim
Waverley	Piercefield
Wells	Providence
Willsboro	Pitcarin
Saranac	Stamford
Stony Creek	Port Henry
Lake Luzerne	Benson
Day	Saranac, Town of Saranac Lake-VII.

APA loses hundreds of jobs

Mr. Murray Latham, local employee of the New York State Department of Labor, recently stated that: "The Adirondack Park Agency is, in my opinion, one of the major employment setbacks in the area. By stopping the growth of industry, the APA stops jobs in the hundreds.

Employers are unwilling to commit money to building light industrial facilities due to the time delay that must be put up with before beginning production while an environmental impact survey is done.

We need light industry in Saranac Lake."

Mr. Murray is employment security manager for the manpower division of the State Department of Labor.

Thank you for telling it like it is, Mr. Latham.

T.D.

One person in five does not have a job in Essex and Franklin County. (Official figures for April 1976).

No end to land control

An unbelievable number of complicated new oppressive laws are being made that will further restrict and completely hamstring private land and stifle its use. Some of the agencies to control land use are:

- State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRE)
- National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA)
- Tidal Wetlands Use Regulations
- Wild Scenic and Recreational Rivers Act
- Critical Resources Management Act
- Article 9A Real Property Law
- Office of Interstate Land Sales H.U.D.
- Department of Health, Education & Welfare Pure Waters Act
- Department of Environmental Conservation
- D.O.T.
- HEW — Consumer Protection & Disclosure
- APA (temporarily)
- New York State Department of Health
- Public Service Commission
- Local Zoning
- Army Corp of Engineers
- Attorney General Registrations

It is not possible to make satisfactory changes in the APA law that will make it acceptable because the enemies of Adirondack citizens are making so many new laws, and rules and regulations so fast we can't keep up with them. — F.C.



Rev.
PETER A. WARD

Local priest speaks out

Pastor
St. Pauls Church
Bloomingdale
and
Church of the Assumption
Gabriels, N.Y.

TO THE HONORABLE LEGISLATORS:

I have resided in eight communities in four counties in the Adirondack Park during thirty-five years. I am a Forty-Sixer, having climbed all the high peaks; I have served on several advisory boards to Governors and Conservation Commissioners. As a charter member of the Adirondack Park Association, and as long-standing chaplain to the New York State Conservation Council, and as pastor of thirteen different parishes in the Park, I have come to know hundreds of people in all walks of life.

Now considered a native, I am well-known and trusted by Adirondackers. In the early 1970's, I was delighted with the task force studies and subsequent Adirondack Park Agency law.

Much to my embarrassment and humiliation, the misapplication of this law has resulted in complete disaster. Contradictory to a few well-financed and idealistic outsiders, some of whom have moved into the Adirondacks to call themselves "residents", I can assure you that not more than one or two in a hundred of the real residents are in favor of this law as it now stands. I know. Do not be fooled again, if you initially voted for the APA law.

You will hear rumors of threats of violence and destruction. They are true. You will hear of violence. It has already happened. You will hear us called a "conquered people". We are. How could our legislature do this to us? Because of exaggerations, scare tactics and political pressures. If your district were singled out for similar repressive laws, you would become as irascible as our own representatives are becoming. And if our representatives are not becoming irascible, then I can assure you they will NOT be our representatives after next election. This is no idle statement. As town after town and county passes resolutions to abolish the Adirondack Park Agency, the snowball effect will be felt all over the state, not just in the legislative chambers.

Listen. Heed. Help us.

Are They Overpaid?

The Adirondack Park Agency's recent economic profile on the Adirondack Park lists per capita income for the people of the park at \$2,427., one third less than the state per capita income.

By the way of contrast, here are the salaries of some of the employees of the Adirondack Park Agency:

Employee	Base Salary	Fringe Benefits	Total Salary	Gone
Richard Persico	36,100	11,552	47,652	—
Gordon Davis	29,213	9,348	38,561	—
Richard Estes	29,213	9,348	38,561	—
George Davis	25,950	8,304	34,254	—
R.C. Glennon	23,508	7,522	31,030	—
J.W. Hanson	22,330	7,145	29,475	—
R.J. McClimans	20,852	6,672	27,524	—
W.J. Curran	19,448	5,223	25,671	—
G.D. Nagle	18,102	5,792	23,894	—

Reprinted by Request

There is no other issue in the Adirondack Park as important as the overthrow of the A.P.A. and the Berle reign of the D.E.C.

The first step in solving environmental problems is to truly understand what they are. The APA has little understanding of these problems or how to solve them.

The Adirondack Defender is published entirely by unpaid volunteer help. Postage and printing is paid for by contributions. We do not have a million dollar budget and a large staff of overpaid lobbyists and Public Relations men like the A.P.A.

MOUNTAIN AL BY PHIL GRIFFIN
ADIRONDACK DEFENDER
WHEN I SAW "THE EXORCIST" I DOUBTED THAT AN EVIL FORCE COULD ACTUALLY EXERT ITS EVIL INFLUENCE UPON INNOCENT VICTIMS AND COERCE THEM INTO SLAVERY.

I CHUCKLED OVER THE IDEA OF A HOLY PERSON CASTING OFF THE EVIL CURSE WITH INCANTATIONS AND FREEING THE UNFORTUNATE SOULS OF THEIR MISERY.

TODAY I STOPPED LAUGHING!



Past — Present — Future

By
R.F. Hunsicker
Lake Placid, N.Y.

For nearly three years the people of these mountains have been saddled with the Adirondack Park Agency. The agency was foisted upon us by a group of wealthy and politically powerful men, and supported with militant zeal by environmental evangelists. As it was happening to us, we accepted it with an air of resignation, even though it meant severe controls over our economic freedom — not only for ourselves but for generations to come.

We were told the agency would protect the 2½ million acres of the Park so that citizens might enjoy it forever more. So they proceeded to tear down the hundreds of tent platforms on the lakes which were enjoyed by thousands of citizens over many years. That effectively ended substantial summer revenue for many Adirondack enterprises. The agency has regarded real estate developers as the devil's disciples, so that today it is virtually impossible for one who owns land to promote attractive settlements for people to enjoy, and which would bring more revenue to businesses, and more taxes to our towns.

The agency is effectively shutting off from enjoyment by the people hundreds of remote ponds, lakes and rivers declared forever wild. Bush pilots are not even permitted access to these areas by plane or helicopter, because of "noise pollution" during landing and takeoff — even though only birds and animals hear the noise!!

A good case can be made that the 125,000 people of the Park are suffering from the same sort of persecution by government as were, and are today, another minority in America — the American Indians. Since 1924, when the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs was legislated, the Indians have for 150 years barely survived the cruel oppression of government and in brutal poverty. The people of these mountains — only about one-half of 1 percent of the 18,300,000 citizens of New York state, have been strapped into an economic straitjacket without their consent. And now, Gov. Carey hopes to impose even tougher restraints upon the use of 3½ million acres of land privately owned by all of us. How reminiscent it all is of 1776 when King George III used similar tactics upon the early Colonials.

That is the story of the past and present. What about the future?

Threatened as we are by the menace of fewer and fewer jobs as time goes by, along with deepening poverty, thousands of young people will flee the Park to find opportunities elsewhere. The elderly will pass away. What will be left? Perhaps one-half of today's population, and of course the APA, in supreme charge — unless something is done, and SOON. Without action to correct the present agency repression, no private enterprise would consider putting an industrial plant in this area, which could provide incomes to hundreds of citizens.

What is particularly discouraging is the complete indifference by the Albany legislature to our strife. As Assemblyman Glenn Harris said, "Isn't it incredible that the Governor and his staff have not taken into consideration one single proposal or suggestion made by State legislators who serve the Adirondack Park area."

There exists in this Park a group of genuinely concerned citizens, who are giving thousands of hours of their time — daytime, night time and weekends, as well as their own financial resources to restore more freedom for all of us. They work without pay. And they face the Park Agency dictatorship, which is annually funded generously by the State with moneys raised from our taxes.

Your tax money is being used by the APA to take away your civil rights, deprive you or your private property and to destroy your future as a resident of the Park.

Support the Adirondack Defender
Support the League for Adirondack Citizens Rights
Support all anti-APA efforts —
And do it now, today

Do We Stand A Chance?

By
Tony D'Elia
Loon Lake, N.Y.

"The people of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do hereby enact as follows:"

This phrase, as used in the introduction to bills in the legislature has always fascinated me, for this is the essence of Democracy — the people's will being carried out by their elected representatives.

This is the way Democracy is supposed to work. This is the textbook explanation to students. Does it really work this way in actual practice?

Let's quote an experienced and expert politician, Mr. Peter Berle, new Dept. of Environmental Conservation Commissioner in his enlightening book, "Does the Citizen Stand A Chance".

"Strong pressures are placed on legislators which are far removed from the collective interests of the community. Laws are often passed in response to those pressures without regard to the public good."

Could this be how the Adirondack Park Agency Law was passed? Or was this the will of 18 million New Yorkers in opposition to 120,000 residents of the Adirondack Park?

Was this law passed because the sovereign people of a state wanted it or because a small band of wealthy, dedicated elitists want it, aristocrats "who know what is good for the people"?

The conclusion I've reached is that only a handful understand or know anything at all about the Adirondack State Park, its Agency and the issues, and this even includes many legislators in Albany.

But by no stretch of the imagination can we say that this Park Agency Law, which was passed more than three years ago, was the will of the people, either inside or outside the Adirondack Park.

Strong pressures far removed from the collective interests were responsible for the passage of this highly debatable and poorly administered law.

And this is what has happened in the Adirondacks. The people are not listening to the Adirondack Park Agency, in fact, they are defying it. The town boards are not listening, the Village Boards, The County Legislators, the political and group associations, the unions, the churches they all want no part of dictatorial and confiscatory land use planning.

We've got to start all over again, not by passing the powers of APA over to Encon, which will be like going from the frying pan into the fire, especially with the new Encon Commissioner, Mr. Berle, but by allowing a land use plan to slowly develop from the local town levels, with guidance from the counties

We should tell the counties and towns not to repeat the APA mistakes:—

— You should not impose zoning of such severity that it destroys the value of most of the privately owned land without offering just compensation.

— You should not have your land use plan implemented and administered by a group of dictatorial elitists who follow the letter of the law without sympathy for human beings and at other times change the law at will to suit their purposes.

— You should not allow the APA administrators to add conditions of approval to projects that are not covered in the law, conditions that are mandated to stop or discourage development.

— You should not fail to listen to the complaints of people and refuse to offer remedies for hardship cases.

— You should not discourage existing business and industry or prevent new business and industry from developing.

— You should not destroy a people's economy and tell them it is for the benefit of future generations, that, they must pay the penalty for posterity.

— You should not operate under the philosophy that the end justifies the means, that anything goes to protect this great wilderness for future generations.

— You should not destroy home rule or a local government's ability to control its own economic destiny.



Letters TO THE EDITOR

LIMIT 300 WORDS PER LETTER

TO SENATOR WARREN ANDERSON

Dear Andy:

This is a final plea to you to ask Senator Marchi to let the bill to abolish the Adirondack Park Agency out on the floor. We here at Stalag ADK, surrounded by the Blue Line Wall, wonder why the continued bias prevents the end of this planning for us instead of planning by us?

The taking of 42 acres out of every 43 without compensation is a theft, with the Legislators accessories both before and after the fact.

Even the New York Times asks the Legislature why it does nothing to compensate private property owners when land is expropriated and taken for scenery. The examples of confiscation, of Gestapo methods and posting of notices on the door of innocent camp owners reek of Nazi Germany and Russian discrimination. There is no liberty for the 13 counties and the Legislature is not listening to the myriad resolutions to abolish by the majority of the 89 Towns.

The pendulum will swing and this experiment will come to an end just as Prohibition did, but there is nothing noble about this experiment and it has malice and selfishness driving it and an abuse of police power that is killing off the resident by reason of economics and the little man by myriad red tape set up by and for a Sierra Club bureaucracy.

Your fairness and good judgment is going to perceive this eventually so why not act now? Economy and human rights are being taken up by organized labor and the Farm Bureau in both State and nation to end the tyranny which has not yet done one constructive thing. We ask again that health matters be returned to the Public Health Department where we will get some action on that, and that planning and use of our land be done by the people who know, that is the landowners and not the Carpet-Bagger bringing an iron fist in with the ultimate inefficiency of forcing citizens of New York State by a law that seeks to legislate ethics, morals, taste and punishment.

Let us save the million dollars a year paid for these many clerks and have the owners manage their own land in planning by us.

It is a truism that Socialists send us on the road to Serfdom and that destroys political freedom for all parties.

From the Colony called Stalag ADK —

Sincerely,
Thomas B. Cantwell

This letter illustrates the real effect the APA is having on the economy that no one hears about.

May 20, 1976

Dear Mr.

We are sending you this letter to inform you that we wish to void our sales contract. This is due to the problems now being caused by the APA. We feel that at this time it would be better for us to sell the land and wait and see what the APA does next.

Would you please let us know what we have to do next before we receive the refund? How do we get the land deeded back to you? We will make arrangements to remove our camper from the property as soon as possible.

Sincerely yours,
Charlene Bjorklund,
B431 RD2,
N.Y. Ave. Lake Hopatong N.J.

Great, isn't it?

APA collaborated with polluters

At the Loon Lake hearings, the Loon Lake Property Owners Association were intervenors who worked with the APA to break the builder. More than 25 of the members of this Association, by the APA's very own standards, are polluting Loon Lake. In sworn testimony, Mr. G. Gordan Davis, then Chief APA Counsel, stated that they would not take jurisdiction over this problem.

Many homes as shown on this map have septic tanks less than 25 feet from the lake, some as close as 10 feet and two dump raw sewage in the lake.

Mr. Don Charles, APA "Pollution Expert", stated in sworn testimony that septic tanks less than 100 feet from any body of water pollute the water.

The APA will apparently go to any lengths to stop the building of homes and the creation of jobs for Adirondackers.

To all towns, villages, counties and associations in New York State — Support the growing movement to abolish the APA by having your board pass this resolution.

Sample Resolution to Abolish APA

Resolution No. passed by the of of the State of New York on 1976

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the Adirondack Park Agency Act Article 27 creating the Adirondack Park Agency appears to violate the intentions of the State and Federal Constitution; and

WHEREAS this Agency has usurped power rightfully belonging to local governments; and

WHEREAS there is no real need for such an Agency as there already exists too much government and too many insensitive bureaucratic agencies; and

WHEREAS the economy is restricted, tax base is decreased, and private land owners are deprived of their rights and full use of their land without compensation; and

WHEREAS these experimental, overly-severe land controls are not wanted by those who bear the burden of this law;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the of petition the Legislature and Governor of the State of New York to abolish and repeal the Adirondack Park Agency Act Article 27, and that an Adirondack Park Local Government Planning and Control Board be authorized to replace the Adirondack Park Agency.

Resolution offered by

Seconded by

Adopted 1976 Vote Ayes to No's

Copies sent to Governor Hugh Carey, Assembly Speaker Stanley Steingut, Senate Majority Leader Warren Anderson, and Adirondack Defender, Box 1, Saranac Lake, New York 12983, and Village of Tupper Lake N.Y.



ENVIRONMENTALIST "LOADS" MEETING

Some time ago I wrote to Mr. Koppell (Chairman of the Assembly Environmental Committee) stating that I was Available to speak on what the A.P.A. is trying to accomplish in the Adirondack Park. With a bureaucrat's supreme ego, he assumed I was in favor of it and

sent a form to fill out. I was notified of the May 1st Saranac Lake hearing and placed in the first six speakers along with the assistant attorney-general, Commissioners Flacke and Stock and other apple-polishers such as Ferne Petty. Opponents like Mrs. Newberry, Sanford Hayes and

Joe Hickey were kept waiting until late in the afternoon in the hope that most people would get tired and leave before they had a chance to speak, which is what happened.

Shirley Delano Ryan
Loon Lake, N.Y.

Political Process has failed Adirondack citizens



By N.Y.S. SENATOR RONALD B. STAFFORD

In light of the testimony given by Park residents at recent public hearings and the painfully inadequate response by the APA and the Legislature, I cannot help but be overwhelmed by evidence of the failure of the political process to deal equitably with citizens of the Park.

An experiment from its very beginnings, the Agency has grown into a bureaucratic nightmare, a legislative Frankenstein which has deceptively outgrown its creators. The recent adoption of the River Rules and Regulations clearly demonstrates the Agency's intention to overstep the bounds of its authority by effectively making map changes without legislative approval. One such triumph will inevitably lead to a mad rampage of enforcing stricter regulations. Further, it is an irrational force which threatens the Adirondack resident with such restrictions as the prohibition of cutting for a view along the rivers unless the house may be camouflaged from the view of the passing canoeist — a ridiculous and imbalanced invasion of the rights of the private property owner.

The Agency makes a mockery of itself in denying its members the opportunity to approve or disapprove the well-circulated memoranda in opposition to proposed amendments to the APA Act. It makes a mockery of itself in publicly admitting to a "taking" through their Act.

Perhaps the most disturbing part about the Act and its enforcement is that the Adirondack citizen's only recourse is in the courts. Aside from the expense of such a solution, I must protest the basic injustice and irrationality of obstructing the normal democratic channels.

One cannot help but wonder why the experiment had to take place in the Adirondacks. Why not the Catskills? Why not a state-wide plan, for certainly our Adirondack lakes are being polluted by the acid rains of the State's urban centers? Why hasn't regional planning taken in the true region? The State. It seems that frustrated environmental concerns had found in the Adirondacks both a pure environment and a politically powerless people. In no other area could a state agency be employed to dictate local land use plans.

It has been claimed repeatedly that the "protection" afforded by the Agency is for the long range

good of the residents, that tourism will boost the economy of an aesthetically appealing Adirondacks. While tourism is important, we do need a broader base for our economy. The Agency has failed to show material interest in the economy of the Park, and has even publicly opposed legislation providing for a snowmobile trail system, clearly an enhancement of the tourist attraction of the region. Business is discouraged from entering the Park by the mere cost and risk involved in making a permit application in view of the Agency's subjective, case-by-case review procedures. If no businesses are established, no jobs are provided to an already severely economically depressed region. With the extension of the powers of the Agency and its evasion of specificity which makes law just, development will continue to be stunned if not eroded.

So who is looking after the people of the Adirondacks while the State clasps its protective arms about the insect and bird habitats? The people turn to their legislators like myself, a minority, who must in turn beseech their colleagues to consider the Agency in terms of justice, to relegate the politics of environment to its proper priority in light of the peculiarity of the experiment in the Adirondacks.

As the session draws to a close, we must see that justice is done. The citizens of the Adirondacks must again feel their hands at the reins, the rightful and legal determiners of their fate. The very integrity of our entire system calls for abolition.

I believe that any revision short of repeal may be as effective as a screen door in a submarine. The people of the Adirondacks have suffered a heinous injury to their liberty. In the State's blind and unreasonable pursuit of a Park, the State has fallen into a dangerous, righteous complacency — dangerous because it threatens the very concept upon which democracy and the law depends, the rights of the individual. Law without the consensus of the citizens involved is not legitimate law based upon the principles of our great democracy. And the people of New York State must not take idly the consequences of subjecting a free people to such a sad state.

We have learned that we can not match their oversize staff and budget on a point for point basis or with public hearings. Let us not further dissipate our efforts on any discussion or debate for changes. The single response must be that we don't want any of it. Albany may then at least get the message.

F.C.

Adirondacks On My Mind

By
FRANK CASIER



What kind of a crazy mixed up political process do we have in New York State — when Nelson Rockefeller can "deliver" Republican delegate votes to a Presidential candidate of his choice? Has he bought, paid for and does he own the states Republican Party?

The A.P.A. is preventing housing for the poor.

The APA has virtually stopped the development of waterfront second home lots in the Adirondacks at a price within the reach of the middle class.

Agency P.R. men seek sympathy for Richard Persico — He claims some one let the air out of tires in Town of Fine so they put it on W.N.B.Z. radio. Can you imagine a news program covering a flat tire for you?

The A.P.A. does not take any action at all against polluters who dump raw sewage in our lakes and streams, but they prevent the installation of New York State Board of Health approved Septic systems on A.P.A. approved grandfathered lots and renig on their own written permits.

Adirondack Life did not set the record straight on 43 APA misconceptions by Richard Beamish.

The A.P.A. is eliminating the possibility of low income people enjoying the ownership of an Adirondack camp.

By the time Dick Lawrence's term expired as Chairman of the APA, he had become the most disliked man in Essex County.

One reason why the A.P.A. can't get its work done is because so many of their staff are tied up in public relations and lobbying, trying to save their high paid jobs. They are every where and in the media trying to convince people they are good guys, Tough Job!!!

Adirondack businesses can not survive the A.P.A. red-tape tread mill.

It seems every time we go to Albany there is Richard Persico and Geo. Nagle hanging around the legislative office building. What are they doing there all the time?

The APA is not interested in pollution control. They are interested in people control.

Thousands of hours of effort are being wasted by many builders, developers, lawyers and other people trying to avoid dealing with the A.P.A.

MAN should be the No. 1 consideration in the ecology movement.

The A.P.A. law ignores the aspirations and needs of those who have to bear the burden of the A.P.A. law.

The A.P.A. is a design on paper which is the wrong place. Decisions should be made on the ground.

The A.P.A. violates the real needs of man.

The A.P.A. law kills the spirit of man.

Government should be in harmony with — Not in conflict with citizens.

People should be allowed to build homes — not prevented from building by unreasonable A.P.A. specifications.

The A.P.A. has increased the cost of building lots between \$1,000 and \$2,000 each without improving them.

The A.P.A.'s school learned technology is insufficient on which to make the decisions they are making.

The A.P.A. should consider people first — not last!

PARKWIDE REFERENDUM

*We want a parkwide referendum by
Adirondack residents only, to decide on the
abolishment of the A.P.A. and its
replacement with local control boards.*





The War Wagon

Don't Buy It — Steal It!

Mr. George D. Davis, former chief Planner for the Adirondack Park Agency who resigned to become the Executive Secretary of the Wilderness Society presented a report to the APA entitled the "APA — 1976 and Beyond."

According to Mr. Davis the Agency's basic goal should be embraced within the following, flowing, flowery rhetoric: —

"To shape the character of the Adirondack Park so that it may provide future generations with an aesthetically pleasing natural landscape which contains, in addition to ample opportunity for a reawakening of the human heart and soul, as many uncompromised options for use as equity to the present generation allows."

We went to our 40 lb. Webster and couldn't for the life of us understand what this "basic goal" means, until we came to the following part of this staff report to the APA: —

"It would appear that the state has two basic alternatives if a goal like the one suggested is to be accepted for the Adirondack Park. These two choices would be

- (1) The purchase of all or most of the private land in the Adirondack Park, or
- (2) The use of governmental laws, rules, regulations and programs to achieve the goal.

We've got you, George. Just like we've been saying for all these years. We call it confiscation without compensation.

How slow the APA

A.P.A. Chairman Robert Flacke says he is making great progress in streamlining the effectiveness of his agency. Here are some facts:

1. Wertz application for variance was dated Dec. 31, 1975. APA held a public hearing May 22, 1976. 142 days wait. The project has been tied up almost one year so far.
2. A one sentence letter of inquiry sent to the APA dated March 1, 1976 was responded to May 17, 1976 after two telephone calls and 78 days later.

Assemblyman Candidate

Dave Martin Says:

"The Adirondack Park Agency, as we know it, has to go. Land use planning and the restrictions and regulations which are part of any such plan should only be administered by those selected by the electorate from within the area to be controlled. As the Adirondack Park Agency is now constituted, the area's ultimate control and authority lies with the state government, which any Adirondacker or North Country person can appreciate, is controlled by the city of New York and the bureaucracy long established in Albany."

APA decreases value of 90% of land

"Funding must be provided to enable the State Board of Equalization and Assessment to complete its study of the economic impact of the private land use plan on property values and tax assessments. The Governor stripped the funding for this study in 1975, and delayed submission of the State Board's recommendations for two years. Without funding and adequate staff, the economic impact cannot be substantiated in meaningful terms." From Assemblyman Glenn Harris' Task Force Report on the APA.

Editor's Note: Private studies carried out by several people in the Adirondacks show that 10 per cent of the land has increased in value and more than 90 per cent has decreased in value. Would this be why this study has never been carried out by the State? — T.D.

REPRESENTATIVE GOVERNMENT IN THE ADIRONDACK PARK IS (TEMPORARILY) DEAD

Special interest groups with altruistic-sounding names, such as the Sierra Club, financed by non-profit organizations controlled by the Rockefeller family have found a way to use New York City lawyers and lobbyists such as the Environmental Planning Lobby to gain control of members of the New York Legislature by publishing lists giving legislators ratings and awarding Boy Scout type merit awards for falling in line. These special interest people have succeeded in getting the APA Law Article 27 passed into law which is unconstitutional on the face of it.

The one-judge kangaroo courts often with "obligations" make decisions contrary to and in violation of the Constitution, upholding the bad laws of their friends and thus lawyers and judges are legalizing unconstitutional laws.

These tyrants may succeed for a while as tyrants do, but their schemes will not eventually prevail. Freedom-loving people will eventually rise up and crush the tyrants, as they did to Nixon and Mitchell, and take back the freedoms that this country was founded on. — F.C.

Democrat supports Republican

Al Dufrane, Franklin County Democratic leader has announced his support for Dave Martin, a Republican running against Dan Haley, Dem. for the assembly in St. Lawrence County.

Mr. Dufrane stated emphatically, "Unless Dan Haley supports the people of the Adirondacks in abolishing the APA we will do all we can to defeat Mr. Haley in the Fall.

The Adirondacker has no place to go and no future to build for himself or his children. He must exist without the promise of growth and betterment.

The Adirondack Park Agency Land Use Plan is half a truth, which is always more than half a lie.

Gov. Carey declares war (Cont'd from Pg. 1)

The fight for changes did not succeed. The only chance for success is to all unite in a common front to oppose "changes" and support: —

— The Harris-Stafford bill No. S7438-A to replace the APA with an Adirondack Park Local Government Resources Management Commission composed of the 12 chairman of the county Board of Legislators in the Park.

This bill is a copy of the bill prepared by the Catskill legislators to control the private land in the Catskills.

We want no more than what the Catskill people will have.

When the bills come on the floor, we will present copies of all of our Abolish Resolutions to the Governor and to the two Houses of the Legislature. That will be our simple message. We ask our representatives to simply say, "This is what the people who have to bear the burden of this law want". Nothing else. Abolish it. — F.C.

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Order and distribute the Adirondack Defender through your business, club or town. Reprints 100-\$5, 1,000-\$35.

APA WASTEFULLNESS

The Adirondack Park Agency's operating costs in 1975 to approve a site for a single family home might be considered \$4,400.00 per site.

A total of 226 lots for homes were approved for construction by the APA as of October 20, 1975, after almost a year of bureaucratic bungling, running about \$1,000,000.00 per year budget, including Federally subsidised help. T.D.

GET THE PEOPLE OFF THE WORLD SO THE APA CAN SAVE IT!

THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

The APA is an appointed, not elected, state agency that has written its own laws and zoning for 3 1/2 million acres of privately owned land in the Adirondack State Park.

More than 50 per cent of the privately owned land has been zoned one home per 43 acres. This means that the people of the Adirondacks are allowed to build 4000 homes on almost 2700 square miles of land allowing for a population density of 45 people per square mile, someday. There are other densities.

This has destroyed land values without compensation from the state.

Compounding the most severe zoning law ever passed in the United States is the dictatorial, elitist administration of this zoning plan by the Adirondack Park Agency.

The Agency is completely controlled by the Environmental Lobby groups and has hurt the economy of the Adirondack Park.

More than 120,000 residents suffer under twice the unemployment rate throughout the state and see no future for themselves or their children under this insensitive, unbending bureaucracy. T.D.

WHAT THEY ARE SAYING (Continued from Page 1)

Schenectady Gazette, May 18, 1976: "The citizenry of the New York State municipalities within the blue line of the Adirondack Park (APA) are on the verge of armed violence," the attorney for at least two of the municipalities said yesterday during a court hearing on the Agency's constitutionality.

Donald Peryea, Ray Brook: "It's our duty to rebel."

Assemblyman Glenn H. Harris: "The Agency members and staff who were responsible for the legislative documents are totally irresponsible and slanderous against Adirondack residents and local officials. It is amazing to me that the Agency has the gall to oppose every constructive effort to make any change whatsoever in the private land use law.

The New York State Farm Bureau: "position for repeal is primarily a defense of the constitutional right to the private ownership of property."

Al Dufrane, Franklin County Democratic Chairman: "We are dedicated to fighting the APA to its complete abolishment."

Jan Plumadore, Attorney for Towns of Harrietstown and St. Armand: "The mood of the Adirondack citizens is a feeling of outrage and frustration."

Sandy Hayes: "By May 1st, I intend to have violated another one of their laws. We're going to keep on testing their law until we can crack it open — until we can see this Park Agency and its laws done away with."

Frank Casier: "You can send the National Guard and shed blood, but we're not going to obey this law. This assertion was soundly applauded and cheered at the May 1st public hearing, Lake Placid News reported."

Robert Harder, attorney for ENCON: "In a conversation with Richard Persico, Executive Director, and Richard Lawrence, then chairman of the APA, on August 1, 1973, on the 6th floor of the Environmental Conservation offices on Wolfe Road in Albany, Mr. Lawrence said, "he had prepared the grandfather provision of the Adirondack Park Agency legislation with the specific view in mind of defeating any of the rights of Ton-Da-Lay and for no other purpose."

Ruth Newberry, founder of League for Adirondack Citizens Rights with 16,000 members: "The Adirondack Park Agency has eroded our constitutional rights and crippled our economy. We want it abolished."

Harlan Seamin, Supervisor from Fine: "The Agency was created and is supported by urban residents who have messed up their areas and now want to take over ours."

Mrs. Shirley Ryan of Loon Lake: "The APA's purpose is to stop development, starve out the Park residents and let the State pick up the land for taxes."

William Lyon, Operating Engineers Local 106: "Since the APA came in we've been out of work. Abolish the damn APA."

Warner Deitz, North Elba Planning Board: "The Agency's criteria for approving local land use controls precludes local decision making."

Robert Langevin of Oswegatchie: "We hung the APA in effigy, and if you turkeys on the APA think we are kidding, you just stay on the gravy wagon."

Joe Hickey: "I refused the Agency's permit. There are more in the mountains that will do what they want."

Tom Cantwell, Attorney: "Take \$43; put one back in your pocket for a house; throw the other \$42 away for scenery. You can pay taxes on it but you can't use it." T. D.



Signs of the Times

Robert L. Harder, Attorney who represented the Department of Environmental Conservation in lengthy hearings against Ton-Da-Lay, said the Department's case was "phony" and Henry Diamond was pre-disposed.

Adirondack Survey

By Assemblyman Glenn Harris

72.8 per cent Adirondack residents favor abolishment of APA

In a survey conducted by Assemblyman Glenn Harris 5,300 responded. Adirondack Residents indicated:

Do you favor the abolishment of the Adirondack Park Agency?

Yes	No	Undecided
72.8 per cent	23.5 per cent	3.7 per cent

Should the state compensate landowners for open space restrictions in the Park?

Yes	No	Undecided
81.1 per cent	13.3 per cent	5.6 per cent

Should the Adirondack Park Agency continue to operate in its present form?

Yes	No	Undecided
6.7 per cent	90.8 per cent	2.5 per cent

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