



RESOLUTION
Saluting James Connolly
Deputy Director, Planning

WHEREAS, James Connolly has served as the Deputy Director, Planning for the Adirondack Park Agency between September 2002 and September 2013; and

WHEREAS, in the early years of his career James Connolly worked downstate in the areas of recycling and environmental education including work as an Environmental Educator for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) in Stony Kill; and

WHEREAS, James Connolly was “promoted” to the Adirondacks in 1983 where he served for over twenty years at NYSDEC Region 5 as their chief public affairs officer, and later as the Lake Champlain Program Coordinator, working closely with the United States Environmental Protection Agency, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation and Quebec Ministry of the Environment; and

WHEREAS, James Connolly fulfilled his career goal when he joined Adirondack Park Agency staff in September 2002 as Deputy Director, Planning, responsible for providing policy advice to the Agency on regional planning issues in the areas of environmental, social, and economic trends that affect public and private lands and influence the long-range future of the Park. His work involved the administration of the Adirondack Park Land Use and Development Plan Map including technical corrections and review of amendment requests. A focal point has been administration of the Adirondack Park State Land Master Plan through consultation with and advice to NYSDEC and the Agency Board regarding unit management plans and proposed revisions to the Master Plan. He has also had oversight of the Agency’s cartography and information services program and provided technical assistance and training to local governments regarding Agency jurisdiction, project review procedures, and local planning; and

WHEREAS, from May 2008 to August 2009, Mr. Connolly served as Acting Executive Director and was publicly recognized by the Board for his extraordinary leadership, creative initiative, dedication and unselfish service to the Agency, which has been ongoing; and

WHEREAS, while in his role as Deputy Director, Planning, Mr. Connolly has displayed extensive knowledge of the Adirondack Park, the Adirondack Park Agency Act, and the State Land Master Plan, including a keen understanding of regional planning and State land policy issues, as well as the need for natural resource protection, local government viability, and economic sustainability, all of which have made Mr. Connolly an extraordinary professional asset to the State of New York and the Adirondack Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board Members and Staff of the Adirondack Park Agency express their friendship and deep appreciation to James Connolly, on the occasion of his retirement, for his many years of service to the Adirondack Park Agency and the people and places of the Adirondack Park, and to the people and places of the great state of New York.

Resolved and unanimously adopted this 12th day of September, 2013.

Leilani Crafts Ulrich
Chairwoman

Terry Martino
Executive Director