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Letter: Spirit of Sunapee

For the Monitor

Monday, May 25, 2015

A few years have passed since I stood with a couple hundred fellow New Hampshire citizens in the Sherburne Gymnasium in Sunapee. The occasion was the presentation by Rob Thomson, then director of the Department of Resources and Economic Development, of the Muellers' proposal to lease Mount Sunapee State Park.

At the session, the Muellers said, "We're not developers, we're skiers!"

This gathering was touted as an opportunity for the audience to speak and ask questions. We stood for hours listening. Eventually, just a few people were able to speak or ask questions. It seemed to me, and still does, that the presentation was shaped that way.

Having our say is fundamental to how we do things in New Hampshire and in our country.

The profit realized upon the sale of a couple of condos (and they're coming) would cover the small lease fee they pay for the park for quite a while. Nice work if you can get it.

Our state park at Mount Sunapee is turning into a cash cow for private investors. It is the use of public lands for private profit. Save what is left of the Sunapee hills and save the spirit in which New Hampshire state parks were created.

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