

Ferry Beach Park Association Nominating Committee Nominating Committee Report May 9, 2015

The Nominating Committee for the 2015 elections of the Ferry Beach Park Association was composed of Brad Cohen (2012-2015), Rick DeWolfe (2013-2016), Rev. Sue Gabrielson (2014-2017) and Board Liaison Cyd Melcher.

Throughout the past year, the Committee reached out to the membership to generate potential candidates for a variety of positions and volunteer opportunities, with an eye to nurturing future leadership. The Board also asked the Committee to consider strategies to develop the skills of current Board members, and to orient newly elected members to their role and responsibilities.

The Committee engaged the general membership through the Ferry Beach website, an emailing to all members, an online "Interest Form," personal contacts, and many conversations with a range of Ferry Beachers. In all, we screened about two dozen potential candidates. Everyone we spoke with expressed great love for Ferry Beach. Many are interested in volunteering, but are not ready or able to commit to Board or Nominating Committee positions. We referred names of these members to staff, and promoted the Ferry Beach Keepers program.

Four current Board members are in positions expiring this year. Of these, two are eligible for second terms and interested in doing so. The Nominating Committee is pleased to put forward the following slate of outstanding candidates for the Board of Directors:

Treasurer: Carolyn Hodges, Cambridge, MA, 2nd term (2015-2018)

Secretary: Marty Burgess, Kennebunk, ME, 2nd term (2015-2018)

Director: Deb Best, Niskayuna, NY, 1st term (2015-2018)

Director: Janet Bringola, Wakefield, MA and Saco, ME, 1st term (2015-2018)

One current Nominating Committee member is in a 3-year position expiring this year, and one position remains vacant with one year remaining on the term. None of the potential nominees we interviewed felt ready to accept the 3-year position, so we have nominated an excellent candidate for the 1-year position at this time. We are pleased to present the following slate of candidates for the Nominating Committee:

Nominating Committee Member: D'Vorah Kelley, Keene, NH, (2015-2016)

Biographies for each of the candidates follow:

Carolyn Hodges, Candidate for Treasurer (2015-2018)
Cambridge, MA



Carolyn Hodges has been enjoying Ferry Beach with her family for about fifteen years. She is a member of First Parish in Arlington, MA which holds an annual retreat at the Beach each October. Carolyn attends Quilting by the Bay each August since its inception in 2001. Both she and her daughter, Jean Coletta, are life members. Carolyn resides in Cambridge, MA with her husband John and they are twenty-year members of First Parish Arlington. She has served her church in many ways, most recently as chair of the annual stewardship drive (2009-2011) as well as serving as a lay minister for several years. She sings in the choir and is a member of a small women's cappella ensemble "The UU-lations." Carolyn is an avid cyclist. Professionally, Carolyn is the Executive Director for Risk Management at JP Morgan Chase. She is an experienced financial professional and holds an MS in Accountancy, an MBA in Finance and a BA in Economics/Political Science.

I have served one term on the Board as Treasurer with gratitude. Ferry Beach is a jewel and my fellow "beachers" delight in its splendor. I very much appreciate my time serving with my fellow board members; together we have increased both transparency and financial stability, and improved our sense of community.

Marty Burgess, Candidate for Secretary (2015-2018)
Kennebunk, ME



Marty Burgess has been a Ferry Beach member since the late 80's. He first arrived in the grove with his partner Christine and their combined blended family of teens, Tyler, Trevor and Katie. Their blended family has been active in the Family and Friends week ever since. The grandchildren have joined them for Family and Friends as they continue to embrace Grove camping, ocean waters and Ferry Beach life.

For the past 12 years, Marty has enjoyed leading Fog Dog Pods in discovering the joys of ocean kayaking. Marty is a small business owner of Violence No More. He works with the court system and many individuals to bring peace to interpersonal relationships.

Deb Best, SPHR, SHRM-SCP, Candidate for Director (2015-2018)
Niskayuna, NY



My husband Joel and I were married in 1992 by the then-minister of the Unitarian Universalists of Pittsfield, MA. We joined the Unitarian Universalist Society of Schenectady, NY in 2004, the first and only congregational membership experience for our family, because we wanted our then-toddler son to have the experience of belonging to a like-minded spiritual community as part of his childhood upbringing that we didn't have. We were drawn by the Senior Youth Bridging Ceremony, Susan (of blessed memory) from the Membership Committee,

and Mindy, then the wonderful DRE. We knew that we, and our now-13-year-old son Noah, would be welcomed. Noah, a lifelong UU, has flourished there. Over the years, Joel and I have served in various lay governance roles for our church, and I currently serve as a member of our church's Trusts and Personnel Committees. In 2012, Mindy and her husband Donald invited us to volunteer as FUUTURES counselors for the Ferry Beach Youth Camp, and Noah (now a Different Drummer who will move to FUUTURES next year) was introduced to the Ferry Beach experience as a KFTE. Ferry Beach was instantly a safe and wondrous extension of our family's UU community. I have volunteered as one of the FUUTURES Theater Track counselors for the last 3 years, and Joel will mark his fourth summer volunteering as a FUUTURES Art Track counselor this year.

As a sustaining member of Ferry Beach, I'm honored to be nominated to the Board of Directors. I look forward to being part of the effort to sustain and grow Ferry Beach now and into the future, so Noah and his future family can continue to be part of the Ferry Beach community in the decades to come.

I have more than 25 years of business, change management and human resources leadership experience for Fortune 5, technology, manufacturing, consumer and supply-chain publicly and privately held companies, including General Electric, Trans World Entertainment and Boston Scientific, as well as non-profit, academic and public-sector organizations. Central to my work as a Practitioner is to partner with leaders at all levels to define and leverage both talent and challenges to meet needs, which in turn maximizes success for both the organization and the individual. I am the owner of *Deb Best Practices*, a New York state Certified Women-Owned Business Enterprise which provides Outsourced Human Resources, Corporate Recruitment, Strategic Planning, Change Management / Communications and Dispute Resolution Leadership for organizations from 5 to over 13,000 employees.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Janet Bringola, Candidate for Director (2015-2018)

Wakefield, MA and Saco, ME



I've been a member of Ferry Beach since 1974, when I first came to Family and Friends and Labor Day weekend as a single parent with my four kids. Matt and I began coming together in 1980, mostly for Labor Day as we were working full time and bringing up six teenagers. We bought a little trailer on-site in the late 80's, and for 15 years lived in the Grove from Memorial Day to Labor Day. I worked with youth on the staff of Family and Friends for 3 years, and coordinated the conference with Ruth Goldberg for 2 years. I served on Search Committee for a new director many years ago.

In 1999, I retired and spent my first Work Week leading the gardening effort. Our priority was to make Quillen a welcoming, attractive place for arriving guests. We redid the circle garden in the Quillen parking lot, planted flower pots in the chapel and other small projects. That was the

beginning! The next year we landscaped Claflin with the help of teenagers who were working at a Habitat for Humanity site. We began the development of the Memorial Garden. Changing this area from dark, wet and unused to light and airy was magical and a huge learning experience. When Matt retired in 2002, we became a gardening team at home and at Ferry Beach doing what we like to do best! Gardening gets you outdoors, gives you the chance to get exercise and to create something beautiful. Since 2003, I have led the gardening crew during Work Week.

Ferry Beach has given our family so much over the years: a safe place for spiritual development, personal growth, lasting friendships, and of course a beautiful place to relax and enjoy! It is very satisfying to be able to give back.

I would like to offer my communication and management skills, and positive attitude to the Board of Directors. I am interested in helping form a vision of the future that includes programming 12 months of the year.

D’Vorah Kelley, Candidate for Nominating Committee (2015-2016)

Keene, NH



D’Vorah is a long time Ferry Beacher. She served on staff for 6 years, as Minister of the Week, and as a conference coordinator. D’Vorah is ordained as an Interfaith minister through the Chaplaincy Institute of Maine (ChIME). D’Vorah’s full bio will follow.