



Calling All Members!

It is that time of year again. The annual meeting of the Ferry Beach Park Association membership is on June 9th. Enclosed in this Discovery are the Proposed Bylaw changes and the Nominating Committee Report. As a member of Ferry Beach, you are encouraged to attend the annual meeting and exercise your right to vote. Review the documents, see the day's agenda, and sign up to attend at ferrybeach.org/annualmeeting.

Notice of Proposed 2019 Ferry Beach Park Association Bylaw Changes

To the membership of Ferry Beach Park Association:

The Board of Directors' Governance Committee has received helpful feedback from the membership over the past year regarding how to best amend the bylaws to ensure Ferry Beach's long term sustainability. The new bylaw changes that we are proposing to the membership for ratification at the June 9, 2019 Annual Meeting reflect that feedback as well as other work by the Governance Committee and Ferry Beach staff to ensure that our bylaws are up to date, compliant with Maine law, internally consistent, and free of typographical errors.

The biggest changes in the 2019 proposal are:

- Ⓐ Adding a definition of "Organizational Membership" to accurately reflect our relationship with outside groups who use the Beach
- Ⓑ Removing the final formal remnants of our former affiliation with the UUA (while still affirming the spiritual aspect of our mission)
- Ⓒ Adjusting the way we count members for the quorum for our Annual Meeting while maintaining voting rights for Life Members

We look forward to discussing these changes with you at the Town Hall preceding the Annual Meeting (Town Hall is at 11am on June 9, Annual Meeting is at 1pm).

Sincerely,
Caitlin Peale Sloan
Chair, Governance Committee
Ferry Beach Park Association Board of Directors

To request a hard copy:
bjohnson@ferrybeach.org
207-282-4489 x2

View the entire bylaw change proposal and the red lined version at ferrybeach.org/AnnualMeeting

Nominating Committee Report to Board 2019

March 18, 2019
From Nominating Committee Chair, Kathleen Dziadzio

To the Board of Directors of Ferry Beach:

The Nominating Committee has determined the following two members have terms, which end at the Annual Meeting in June 2019. They are Stephen Fogg (served 2 three-year terms) and Caitlin Peale Sloan (served 1 three-year term). Our by-laws state that we allow two, 3 year terms by election as a director or two- 3 year terms as an officer.

THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE PUTS FORTH IN NOMINATION FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Marty Burgess, President

Marty Burgess is a small business owner of Violence No More in Biddeford, Maine. He has been a member of Ferry Beach since the 1990's when he and his partner Christine and their combined family of teens: Trevor, Tyler and Katie first started camping in the Grove. He and his family are mainstays of the Family and Friends conference. Marty is active in the Domestic Violence Network in Maine and an active

member of his communities in both Biddeford, where he works, and Kennebunk where he lives.

Marty coordinates the kayaking and paddling program at Ferry Beach and was instrumental in starting the Fog Dogs of Ferry Beach, a paddling club. He loves all sports and in the winter time when he can't be on the water or on his bicycle, he is skating or cross-country skiing.

Caitlin Peale Sloan, Vice President

Caitlin Peale Sloan is an environmental lawyer specializing in energy, climate, and water with Conservation Law Foundation in Boston. Caitlin is an almost-lifelong Ferry Beacher, first attending RE Week as a child before finding a home with Family & Friends at age 9 (in addition to summers at Kids for the Earth and Different Drummers). Caitlin is a 2006 graduate of Colby College and a 2011 graduate of Columbia Law School. She lives in Massachusetts with her husband and their young son.

(Other officers are completing their terms)

WE NOMINATE THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES FOR DIRECTOR POSITIONS ON THE BOARD:

Kathleen Dziadzio is currently the chair of the nominating committee of Ferry Beach. Prior to that, Kathleen participated in Ferry Beach's strategic planning efforts. She was a member of the Shoreline Commission for the City of Saco and served as Secretary for the commission. Professionally, she was a High School Mathematics teacher and then joined the business community selling engineered products. These included low voltage electronic systems (fire and theft detection) which required her familiarity with life safety codes and NFPA requirements. She finished her career as a member of a team designing and installing storm water treatment systems. Kathleen has lived in the Saco area much of her life originally as a summer resident and for the past 30+ years, year -round.

Richard Plumb has a 40-year history of participation at Ferry Beach beginning with attendance at "Retreat Weekends" with local Massachusetts UU Congregations in the '70's and 80's. Over the course of the years he has attended or coordinated Marriage Enrichment, Sacred Circle Dancing, but primarily the Family and Friends conference. Richard has led several groups and been active in the Writer's group for almost 10 years. Professionally, Richard's background is in sales/marketing as well as contract evaluation and negotiation. Richard has now retired and wants to become more involved with Ferry Beach.

For the Nominating Committee position:

We nominate **Claudia Sienko** who has participated in the strategic planning workshops at Ferry Beach. Claudia is a retired educator, she worked with younger children and also spent many years in special education. Claudia lives locally in Camp Ellis, she was born and raised in Old Orchard Beach and attended schools there, she is well known and respected in the community and will be an asset to expanding local involvement in Ferry Beach.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kathleen Dziadzio, Chair
Members: Meghan Chan, Cyd Melcher, David Beseda

View the entire Nominating Committee
Report at ferrybeach.org/AnnualMeeting

Discovery

It's Just Around the Corner... What are your Summer Plans?

Spring is in the air! Snow is melting, birds are chirping and the race at Ferry Beach is on! We are busy getting things ready for our spring church groups and summer conferences. In no time, you will be at Ferry Beach once again. If you are attending a summer program - be sure to make your reservations now as many weeks are filling up or are already filled! View our entire schedule at ferrybeach.org/schedule. Register today by calling 207-282-4489 x1 or by visiting ferrybeach.org



Reflecting on our Past - Looking Toward our Future

"What is the Spirit of Ferry Beach? ...Each (of the people who came to Ferry Beach) had arrived in his own time, in his own place, and in his own way, to his individual position of the universality of all souls with God. Such is the power of an idea at work in the mind and heart of man." (From the Universalists at Ferry Beach, 1948)

I. Thinking about significant times in the history of Ferry Beach, we found ourselves at our last board retreat, noticing some clear shifts. Our earliest days were of "summer meetings," the first of which was held "in the grove at Ferry Beach Park in Maine." Over four hundred people registered for that first meeting at Ferry Beach. (The Universalists at Ferry Beach, Boston, MA., 1948) **Cont. p. 3**



In This Discovery

- ① Reflecting on our Past - Looking Toward our Future
- ② Big Changes at Ferry Beach
- ④ Universalism in the United States, Facilities Use Agreement
- ⑤ Fond Memories of the Quillen Annex

Included: Proposed Bylaw Changes & Nominating Committee Report



Big Changes at Ferry Beach

The winter season always presents us with some time to work on major facilities projects and make some much needed improvements to our campus. Every summer, we love seeing the reactions to these changes from our guests. This winter season has been a busy one with all the usual things like patching, painting, and remodeling - but we have also made some pretty major facility changes!

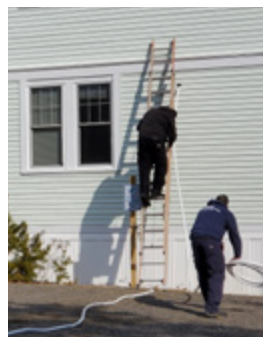
Of course, you remember this fall when we shared the news about the Rose Pavilion remodel! We are excited about the new opportunities this brings to us.

We have relocated the art room into its own building, the former nurses cabin. Our facilities crew worked hard to remove walls, move the bathroom, and install counters, cabinets and shelves in the cabin. We now have a beautiful space to use for the next few years (the long-range plan is to move the art room into a permanent spot and transform the cabin into the Ferry Beach store).

The need to temporarily move the art room was due to the issue that we have been thinking about for several years - the structural state of the annex. We have had to save our money for a few years to be able to have the building removed safely as to not damage the Dolphin room or the main building and were finally able to demolish the annex this year.

Another project that we are very excited about is the GAYLA theatre renovation project - which is going on right now. Heat-pumps have already been installed on the first floor of the building, which allows us to have climate controlled spaces all year long - Yes... That means air-conditioned talent shows this summer! There is much more to do with the GAYLA Theatre project, and we are still raising money to meet our goal. Please see our entire project plan and donate at ferrybeach.org/theatre

We are excited for you to see all these positive changes at Ferry Beach this summer. We have appreciated all of the support and encouragement from our membership who value the work and energy we have devoted to maintaining and upgrading our facilities to preserve it for years to come!



That first and early period was one of getting established, including building for lodging as well as meetings. As one participant said, during this early period: Ferry Beach is “a good place for your soul if only you could leave your body at home.” (p. 2, *The Universalists at Ferry Beach*, Boston, MA, 1948). With the opening of Rowland Hall in 1927, Ferry Beach now had not only lodging (with the Ferry Park Hotel and Underwood already built), but now they also had a place to meet away from the elements.



II. With the accumulation and building of physical structures, Ferry Beach turned its attention more toward workshops, meetings and events. The World Affairs Council met at Ferry Beach each summer through the 1950’s. Girl and Boy Scout troops met at Ferry Beach. Locals from Saco, Biddeford and Old Orchard used the grounds for picnics and other activities. Even P.T. Barnum made an appearance at Ferry Beach (he was friends with Quillen Shinn, and a member of the Bridgeport CT Universalist Church, p. 107, *The Universalists at Ferry Beach*).



III. In the post-World War II prosperity, Ferry Beach became a place for families to enjoy the beach each summer. Primarily connected to the Universalist ministers, families would stay for a week or two at a time at Ferry Beach. When the merger between Universalism and Unitarianism occurred in the early 1960’s more people came up to Ferry Beach and a series of workshops and organized conferences began occurring during the summer weeks. This phase of Ferry Beach’s life existed all the way up through the 1980’s. Churches would have their retreats at Ferry Beach on the weekends and the ministers and their families and friends would have the beach during the summer months in which conferences were formalized. Otherwise, Ferry Beach was primarily shut down in the shoulder season.



IV. In the shoulder season, during the 1990’s and through 2018, Ferry Beach hosted three different Ecology Schools which brought children and youth from schools primarily in the New England area. These programs began in the warmer parts of the “shoulder” season, but over time stretched from mid-March to the June summer conference season and just after Labor Day through mid-November. Physical improvements of the buildings and grounds, were brought on by the need for additional heat in buildings and the ongoing activities in the shoulder season. Hiring a non-clergy member as Executive Director in 2000 began to usher in a new time for Ferry Beach and one of a growing professionalism.



The building and opening of a new dining hall in the center of the campus in 2011, eventually led to providing activities year-round. The last contract with an ecology school expired in 2018 and the board did not renew it, choosing instead to focus on its own programming.



V. In 2017 Ferry Beach adopted a new mission statement, catching up to the changes made by the Unitarian Universalist Association a decade earlier. While always its own 501c3 organization, Ferry Beach had maintained an “affiliate” status with the UUA, carrying out a mission that was to do outreach for the Unitarian Universalist Association. That changed when the UUA disaffiliated all outside groups. Recently, with a nod to its Universalist heritage, Ferry Beach adopted the following mission statement: “Ferry Beach awakens hearts to explore, grow and renew the spirit of universal love.”

With the campus now available to Ferry Beach year-round, Ferry Beach is poised to provide mission driven programming throughout 2019 and beyond. Structural improvements on the campus have added heat to many buildings and plans exist to increase the changes which will make it more comfortable for guests in the colder months. Do you know a group, church or organization that needs to know Ferry Beach?



VOTE!!!

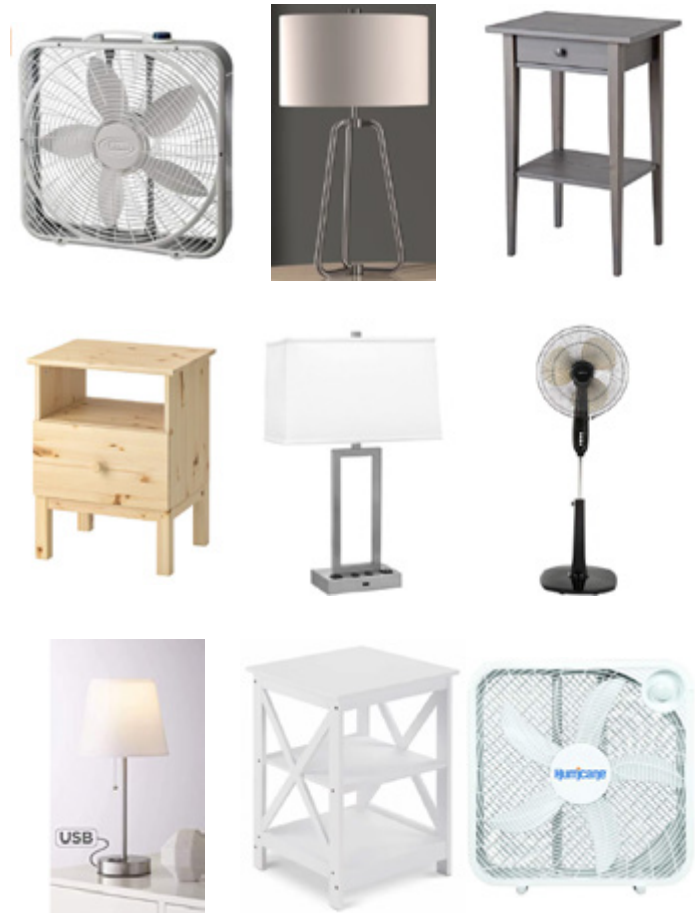
The Dorm Makeover teams have each selected their favorite table, lamp and fan to upgrade Quillen, Underwood and Rowland dorms with. We are looking for your help to make the final selections. Visit ferrybeach.org/dormproject to vote on your favorite and if you would like to join one of the teams, reach out to Brian Johnson at 207-282-4489 x2 or bjohnson@ferrybeach.org

In honoring our legacy of Universalism, we have a task force of people meeting regularly. The stewards of universal love introduces a project called "promoting Universalist love in the 21st century." This project enthusiastically sets the stage for BIG celebrations for the 250th anniversary of Universalism in America in 2020. As a conference center founded by a Universalist minister, this will be a fun way to connect with our Universalist roots.

Some ideas we have include inviting conferees to create short videos or mini-posters for use on social media that briefly tell the story of a Universalist ancestor and offer an example of how to practice their compassion today. Another idea is to re-create the one-page posters describing the Ferry Beach ancestors for whom our buildings are named and consider how best to share or honor their memories.

This is an exciting time as we honor our past in a way that shares the spirit of universal love far and wide while also getting us inspired for some grand celebrations in 2020.

We are looking to brainstorm ideas with interested parties over the next few months. We are also looking for people to be ambassadors for this project during the summer. To participate, please reach out to soul@ferrybeach.org



Times Have Changed

Over the course of our long history, Ferry Beach has been home to many groups. Long before there were fire regulations and insurance to maintain, it was pretty easy to host an event here. Staff or volunteers (before there were staff!) would just hand the keys to the group and say "lock up and turn the lights out when you leave." Today, there are many more regulations we need to follow, and many of those keep us safe and sustainable.



Here are the keys - Lock up when you're all done.



Please read all of the fine print and sign the Use Agreement.

Memories of the Quillen Annex

For over a dozen years, we have known that the Annex needed to come down. Built in the 40's, it was not constructed to withstand the test of time, wind and snow load. We were challenged to come up with the cost of demolition and the best time to do it. We made the decision at the board level several years ago to take down the structure and finally this spring, we were able to address the growing risk of the ailing space. Many have fond memories of the Annex, and a few people shared some of them with us on facebook:

Bradley Cohen Thank you, Ferry Beach, for doing what needed to be done. Loved as it was, structure had become a hazard beyond repair. Celebrate the past - make room for the new.
 Love · Reply · Message · 9h

Jared Ingersoll Wait!! I think i left my painted rock with googly eyes in there!
 Haha · Reply · Message · 17h

Leonard Sokol I'll miss that place... but also demolishing buildings is soooo cool! I want to be the one poking and ripping holes through all of that! Ah, so bittersweet.
 Anyhoo, looking towards the future instead of the past. The memories will last for the rest of my life 😊
 Like · Reply · Message · 17h · Edited

Margaret Johnston I look forward to seeing the positive changes when my family gets to Ferry Beach at the end of July. Good memories are still with each of us.
 Love · Reply · 11m

Gail L. Forsyth-Vail Remember the old walk-in? And all those pitchers of bug juice?
 Like · Reply · Message · 2d



D'Vorah Kelley The Loft was the first place I did a conference in the mid 90's - Sisters of the Circle - with twinkly lights, drums, and ritual. I've led Shamanic Journeys for the Family and Friends teens there, done early morning meditation, crew vesper services with Kent! I sat with a medium from PSI who said Quillen Shinn was in the rafters! And art over the years. So many memories over the last 25 years!
 Like · Reply · Message · 2d · Edited

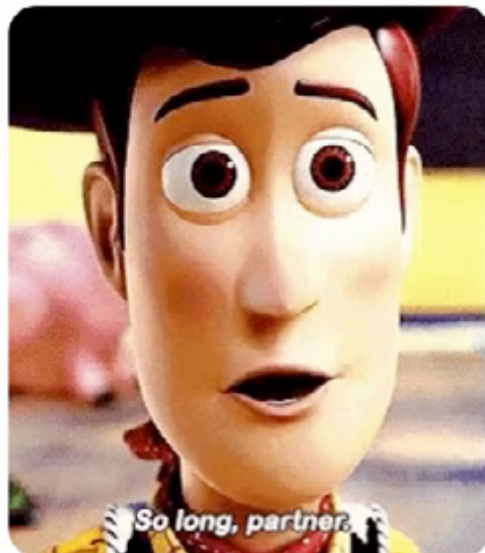
Alison Higgs I remember computer camp in the Annex when I was 13. And countless sleep overs! But I wish the new space brings new fun for all ages!
 Like · Reply · Message · 2d

Roger White 30 + years of wonderful workshops and times of Healing and Renewal in the Loft ! Saved My Life and Spirit. Thank You Ferry Beach !
 Like · Reply · Message · 2d

Ann Barone My first night at FB in 1980 was spent crashing there in the old attic with Teddy **Ted Wing** as a baby and his dad. We arrived very late having gotten lost at the state park. Midnight was too late to pitch a tent with a little one. We woke up very early when the kitchen staff started making breakfast. As we explored FB we fell in love with it! And I've been coming ever since then ❤️❤️
 Like · Reply · Message · 2d

Tom Malone Fondly remember attending various GAYLA workshops and quiet moments in the loft that made a difference in my life. All praise to the kitchen and dining hall staff/waitrons thru the years who made that often inadequate kitchen space somehow work for so many years.
 Like · Reply · Message · 2d · Edited

Nina D'Appolito



Like · Reply · Message · 2d

FERRY BEACH

Discovery

APRIL 2019



Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center
5 Morris Ave • Saco, ME 04072
(207) 282-4489 • ferrybeach.org

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Ferry Beach Retreat & Conference Center is a 501(C)3 non-profit organization with a mission to awaken hearts to explore, grow and renew the spirit of universal love.



Join ChoralFest for an Afternoon!

This summer, ChoralFest is hosting a special day for women singers to see what ChoralFest is all about!

ACTIVITIES WILL INCLUDE:

- Learn & practice workshop with music director Jeff Lipton
- Learn about Ferry Beach and take a campus tour
- Social hour followed by dinner
- Informal campus wide concert (with songs from afternoon workshop)

Tickets are only \$30. Learn more and sign up at ferrybeach.org/ChoralFest