

Friends of Baxter State Park Annual Meeting
Governor Hill Mansion, Augusta, Maine
Saturday, April 6, 2019 • 9:00 AM – 12:15 PM

Minutes of the 2019 Annual Meeting of Friends of Baxter State Park

President Dick Klain called the meeting to order at 9:00am and welcomed all attendees. He then delivered his President's Report, providing an overview of global issues that will affect Baxter State Park in the coming years and a powerful call to action.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2018 Annual Meeting

VOTE: Jim Mroch made a motion to accept the minutes, which was seconded by Jim Andrews. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Committee chairs provided reports: Peter Millard (Co-chair, Development); Gary Friedmann (Chair, Finance); Jim Andrews (Chair, Member Activities); Henry Beeuwkes (Chair, Membership); Jerry Bley (Chair, Public Relations); Alec Giffen (Co-chair, Policy); and Kim Bailey-Shaw and Jerry Bley (Co-chairs, Nominating).

Nominations to the Board of Directors

Kim Bailey-Shaw and Jerry Bley presented the slate of nominees for the Board of Directors. For three-year terms: Jim Andrews (incumbent), Alec Giffen (incumbent), Jim Mroch (incumbent), Josie Quintrell (incumbent), and Steuart Thomsen (new). For a one year term: Matt DeLaney (new).

VOTE: Ginger Jordan-Hillier made a motion to elect the entire slate of nominees. Gary Friedmann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

State of the Park Report

Baxter State Park Director Eben Sypitkowski delivered his first *State of the Park* report. The Park is in good shape thanks to the foresight and vision of Governor Baxter in designing a resilient institution. Eben spoke about several big-picture trends and goals: shifting organizational culture, gathering better data to guide decisions, providing access to all Mainers, and managing the Park not as an isolated island, but as connected to the communities and landscapes that surround it.

Photos from the 2020 BSP Calendar

Aaron Megquier shared images from the 2020 Baxter State Park calendar. He thanked photographers who submitted images, and encouraged attendees to submit images for the 2021 calendar.

Update on the Baxter Youth Conservation Corps

Aaron Megquier provided an update on the Baxter Youth Conservation Corps (BYCC) and shared some images from the program. Friends successfully doubled the size of the BYCC in 2018, with two crews, 20 youth, and four weeks in the Park. Crews completed a total of 1,805 hours of trail work. Friends is planning additional 50% growth in 2019, to six weeks of crew time in total. One of these weeks will take place in Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument thanks to a new partnership with Friends of Katahdin Woods & Waters.

Ten Days in the North Woods: A Kids' Hiking Guide to the Katahdin Region

Author Hope Rowan spoke about her new book, entitled *Ten Days in the North Woods: A Kids' Hiking Guide to the Katahdin Region*. She shared some images and maps from the book, and answered questions from members. The book is scheduled to be released in May 2019 by Islandport Press. Friends will be selling the book.

Members Forum & Adjournment

Dick Klain opened the floor for members to pose questions, raise issues, or make suggestions. There were none, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 12:15pm.

Group Hike: Following the meeting, a small group of attendees hiked at Howard Hill Conservation Area in Augusta, led by Janet Sawyer of the Kennebec Land Trust.