

Kennebec Estuary Land Trust (KELT)
Annual Meeting
6:15 p.m. Maine Maritime Museum Long Reach Hall
April 5, 2018

DRAFT Annual Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Steve August, Archie Bonyun, Bob Gravino, Becky Halbrook, Sue McLeod, Dixie Stedman, John Swenson, Pam Tetley, Eloise Vitelli, Jack Witham` and Reeve Wood

Members Absent: Dennis Dunbar, Betsy Ham and Nancy Milam,

Staff Present: Carrie Kinne et als.

1. Why Membership Matters

Introducing the 2018 Annual Membership Meeting, Mike Fear, local business owner, former KELT Membership and Development member and continuing KELT supporter, described growing up on his family's farm in rural England and later, the decision of he and his wife, Betsy, to purchase KELT conserved farm land in Woolwich. The (name) farm which touches Nequasset Lake was previously placed under a KELT conservation easement by its then owners, the xxxx family. Mike described the value of conserving this land in perpetuity and mentioned the annual late summer Fun Day held in conjunction with KELT which welcomes families and children to explore the open, undeveloped nature of the farm. KELT is a membership organization and the success of (name) and many other properties in the Kennebec Estuary is a result of continuing support by the people who live in, visit and cherish this area.

2. Call to Order

In conjunction with the 2018 Annual Membership meeting, President Sue McLeod led the business meeting which included reports and the election of officers. A quorum of Board members was present.

3. Approved/Accepted

- a. The minutes of the April 6, 2017 Annual/Business meeting were approved.
- b. Steve August presented an overview of the financial status of the organization and the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

4. Approved: Renewal of directors:

- a. Renew: *3 Year Terms*
Dixie Stedman, Bath
Jack Witham, Arrowsic
Sue McLeod, Bath
Pam Tetley, Woolwich
- b. Renew: *3 Year Terms*
Travis Wolfel, Bath
Michael Guethle, Georgetown

5. Approved: Election of officers (by Board Members only vote)

President: Sue McLeod
Vice President: Reeve Wood
Treasurer: Steve August
Secretary: Dixie Stedman
Member at Large: Dennis Dunbar

6. Recognition

Archie Bonyon was recognized for his service to KELT as both a long time Board Member and as a volunteer whose photos and video have chronicled many KELT events and explorations. While leaving the Board at this time, he will continue to serve the organization as a volunteer and we anticipate many interactions with him in the office and on the trails.

7. Land

Jack Witham, chair of the KELT Land Committee, discussed featured projects of land conservation activity during the previous year and Sue McLeod spoke about the value of land trusts and the importance of outreach, of sharing knowledge and building support for land trust organizations locally, state-wide, and on a national basis.

8. Program – Sharing Knowledge, Stoking Curiosity, Building Confidence, and Creating Sense of Place

Arranged by Becky Kolak, KELT Program Manager, and West Bath teacher, Monica Wright, the program was held prior to the meeting to accommodate the third and sixth-grade students from the West Bath (name) school who described their experiments and findings regarding invasive species. KELT's Education Program connects with more than 1,000 students each year. Earlier during the meeting, Eloise Vitelli, Maine State Senator and KELT Board Member, presented Monica Wright with a Letter of Recognition from the Maine Legislature for her efforts to educate students about conservation and the natural world.