



The Annual Meeting of Friends of Casco Bay was held in person at Portland Yacht Services, Portland, on July 25, 2024. The event celebrated our organization's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

### **Welcome**

Board President Kirsten Piacentini welcomed 129 attendees at the event. She shared a short overview of Friends of Casco Bay's work.

### **Annual Meeting**

The 2024 Friends of Casco Bay Members Annual Meeting was called to order at 6:20 p.m.

### ***Approval of the 2023 Annual Meeting Minutes***

Kirsten shared that prior to the event, she conferred with Board Clerk Pat Ianni who affirmed that the Minutes of the August 2, 2023, Annual Meeting were in order. Those in attendance approved the 2023 minutes.

### ***Election of Directors***

Kirsten thanked former board member Dr. Mark Green for his four years of board service. New directors are elected by the Board during the year and ratified by the membership at each Annual Meeting. Directors serve three-year terms; new terms are ratified by our membership. They are limited to three consecutive terms.

*Action Item: Those in attendance voted the following slate of eight Board of Directors.*

The slate for this year included electing six directors to their first term: Samantha Bengs, Nathan Davis, Anthony Moffa, Janna Rearick, Soren Schroder, and Fiona Wilson. The slate included re-electing Andrew "Sandy" Marsters and Sebastian Milardo to their final 3-year terms. This slate was moved and seconded and ratified unanimously by members in attendance.

### ***Treasurer's Report***

Kirsten shared that prior to the event, she had conferred with Board Treasurer Malcolm Poole who affirmed that the financial reports for the year ending March 31, 2024, were in order. In honor of our 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Malcom praised former Executive Director Cathy Ramsdell for her stewardship and development of financial procedures we follow to this day. Malcolm reported that the organization remains in a strong financial position.

Kirsten adjourned the Annual Meeting portion of the event at 6:25 p.m. Following the annual meeting:

- Sandy announced the winners of our Inaugural Frame the Bay photo contest including Petar Strbac, who won Best in Show.
- Casco BAYKEEPER® *Emeritus* Joe Payne, our first employee, reflected on our organization's 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- EPA Marine Biologist Phil Colarusso was introduced by Casco BAYKEEPER® Ivy Frignoca and delivered the keynote address on the future of eelgrass in Casco Bay.