



2020 ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, December 3, 2020
via Zoom

PRESENT: President Heidi Trimarco, Vice President Mary Brown, Secretary Kelley Lemay, Treasurer Ryan Johnson, board members Stan Colla, Aricca Van Citters, Ann Malenka, Karen Geiling, Dudley Smith, Richard Howarth, Jim Wooster....members Steve Lubrano, Linde McNamara, Marc Hiller, Judi Colla, Harold Frost, Barbara McIlroy, Janine McGuire...
.....staff members Adair Mulligan and Courtney Dragiff
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President Heidi Trimarco opened the meeting at 6:00pm, welcoming a generous audience. She reviewed the agenda and introduced Secretary Kelley Lemay, who read the minutes of the 2019 annual meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously on a motion by Heidi, seconded by Stan Colla. Treasurer Ryan Johnson reported that the organization is financially stable with an increase in assets of \$100,000 in FY20 and investments of \$1.195 million, which are overseen by our Finance Committee and managed by Mascoma Wealth Management. The Treasurer's Report was accepted unanimously on a motion by Ann Malenka seconded by Stan.

Heidi introduced the Board of Directors and thanked outgoing member Stan Colla, who has served for eight years on the Board and its Development, Governance, and Strategic Planning committees. The Board has recommended Steven Lubrano, an officer in the Tuck Business School administration and owner of a major parcel of conserved land, to fill Stan's seat. Steve Lubrano was unanimously elected to the Board on a motion by Stan seconded by Ann.

Executive Director Adair Mulligan illustrated the highlights of the past year, including partnership with the Town and Trust for Public Land in protecting the Mink Brook Community Forest. Our community engagement activities pivoted from outdoor trips and the Wednesday Wanders after school program to accommodate the pandemic by focusing on our hikes of the month and Trails Challenge, to encourage people to explore the outdoors safely on their own. Care of our lands and trails is as important as ever with increased outdoor activity. She thanked our growing number of members for their support.

Prof. Richard Howarth, Dept. of Environmental Studies at Dartmouth and member of the Hanover Conservancy's Board of Directors, presented the evening's program, "Environment and Society." Rich explored the evolution of the understanding of the terms "conservation" and "sustainability," leading to consideration of environmental racism and environmental justice. He noted that the notion of "untouched nature" is largely a myth and suggested that carbon storage may be the best and highest use of our forests as we strive to retain the integrity of intact landscapes, whose history and meanings must be valued. Rich's presentation was followed by a lively question and answer session.

President Trimarco closed the meeting with a surprise acknowledgment of Adair Mulligan's 10 years of service as executive director. The meeting adjourned at 7:38pm.