



MAD RIVER VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS & OFFICERS / NOMINATIONS 2019

I PROPOSED SLATE / BOARD OF DIRECTORS

One Director is retiring after serving six years, with the last 3 years as the Treasurer. Our MANY thanks to Roger Nishi! Your expertise and precision will be missed.

One Director is leaving after serving 4 years. Thank you, Ted Fisher, for your support.

Your Board of Directors nominates the following slate for incoming Directors:

Brad Long 1st year, 2nd term (incumbent)

Kris Merchant 1st year, 1st term (replacing Roger Nishi as WCVT Board rep)

Diane Forester 1st year, 1st term (replacing Ted Fisher as Sugarbush Board rep)

Board members currently serving, not up for re-election

Peter MaLaren 3rd year, 2nd term (Peter's term was adjusted by Board decision during past year)

Lori Klein 3rd year, 2nd term

Jim Tabor 3rd year, 2nd term

June Anderson 2nd year, 2nd term

Jack Sharry 2nd year, 2nd term

Kevin Begin 3rd year, 1st term

Ana Dan 3rd year, 1st term

Mimi Bittenheim 2nd year, 1st term (Mimi was appointed by the Board during past year)

Additional nominations from the membership must be submitted to the Executive Director eric@madrivervalley.com prior to the Annual Meeting with 5 signatures of members who support the nominee.

II PROPOSED SLATE / OFFICERS

Your Board of Directors nominates the following officers:

Peter MaLaren: Chair

Ana Dan: Vice Chair

Jack Sharry: Secretary

Mimi Bittenheim: Treasurer

III BOARD BIOS

- June Anderson

A resident of Waitsfield, VT and originally from CT. June and her husband Wendell have been 2nd homeowners in the Mad River Valley since 1999. They moved with their family to the area full time in 2010. June owns and operates Resort Guides, which publishes the Mad River Valley 4-Season Guide plus other tourist guides and mobile apps in Stowe, the Adirondacks and in Middlebury. Together with Wendell she also owns and operates the Bundy Modern Gallery in Waitsfield.

- Kevin Begin

Kevin, Patti and their two children moved to the Mad River Valley in 2015 when they bought the Tucker Hill Inn, which they manage as a family business today. Prior to Tucker Hill Inn Kevin was the Divisional General Manager for Dean Foods' Northeast region. Kevin earned a culinary arts degree from Cobleskill College before earning a BS in Business administration from Cornerstone University and an MBA at Davenport University. He has had the privilege of serving on various industry and non-profit boards throughout his career including the past chair of Feeding America West Michigan.

- Mimi Buttenheim

Mimi was named President of Warren-based Mad River Distillers in 2015, a craft distillery dedicated to producing the highest quality whiskeys, rums and apple brandy distributed throughout the Northeast and California. Prior to joining Mad River Distillers, she served as general manager of Vermont Spirits Distilling Co in Woodstock, Vermont and El Molino Winery in St. Helena, California. Mimi has worked in various aspects of the hospitality industry since graduating from Brown University in 2000; she also completed a degree in Baking and Pastry from the Culinary Institute of America at Greystone in Napa Valley. In her spare time, Mimi competes in three-day eventing with her horse Lestaire and enjoys gardening at home.

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- Ana Dan

Ana and her husband Paul Weber purchased the Hyde Away Inn in Waitsfield in 2015, which Ana fully operates. Prior, Ana spent twenty years in corporate marketing functions in automotive, financial and healthcare companies. Before making their home in Vermont, they lived in the midwest, including Michigan and Ohio.

- Diane Forester

Diane has been a full-time resident in the Mad River Valley since 2007. She relocated with her family from Massachusetts. She is currently the Director of Sales at Sugarbush Resort overseeing group, conference, wedding and social event sales in addition to leisure/vacation sales and multiple pass products. Prior to joining Sugarbush she spent five years in the lodging industry in Stowe, VT. Diane has over 20 years' experience in the hospitality and travel industries within the greater Boston area including The Charles Hotel, Sheraton World Headquarters and American Express.

- Lori Klein

Lori has been a full-time resident of the Mad River Valley since 1980. She is a graduate of Smith College and the Bloomingdale's Executive Training Program. She is a founding partner of Artisans' Gallery in Waitsfield, the Buyer at the Warren Store and a jewelry designer. Lori has served on many boards including the Warren School Board, Valley Arts, GMCC and the Mad River Riding and Driving Club.

- Brad Long

Brad is a long-time resident of the Mad River Valley having worked for Mad River Canoe, Controlled Energy Corporation and Freeaire Refrigeration. He spent four years working at Dealer.com, and now works for Efficiency Vermont.

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- Peter MacLaren, Chair

Peter grew up in Scotland and then worked in the Telecoms industry for 35 years. Early in his engineering career he moved to Canada when he met and married his wife Susan. He has worked in England, around Canada, Texas and France. Latterly he ran the North American division of a global supplier of Public Safety wireless systems. Peter and Susan became co-owners of West Hill House B&B in Warren in 2006.

- Kris Merchant

Kris grew up in Winooski, attended Vermont Technical college and has been using his Electronics engineering degree in the Telecom industry for over 23 years. As a Sales Manager for Waitsfield and Champlain Valley Telecom he loves helping business owners in the Champlain and Mad River Valley connect, compete, and prosper within their communities and throughout the world.

- Jack Sharry, Secretary

A resident of Warren, VT and Westwood, MA, Jack has been an active participant on the Mad River Valley Community Vitality Project. Jack has been a sales and marketing executive at a number of leading financial services firms, and is a principal at LifeYield LLC, a software company that enables investors to reach their retirement goals.

- Jim Tabor

Best-selling author James M. Tabor (jamesmtabor.com) has lived in the Valley for 25 years and is a former Contributing Editor to both Outside and SKI Magazines. Before becoming a full-time writer, he served as Director of Communications for Colorado's Breckenridge Resort, Director of Sales, Marketing, and Public Relations for Stratton Mountain Resort, and Senior Vice President of Paul Kaza Associates Advertising and P.R. Agency in Burlington.