

## SICO Nominating Committee Report 2023

The SICO Board of Directors annually appoints a Nominating Committee of three persons to recommend candidates to fill all Board vacancies anticipated to exist as of the next Annual Meeting. Dick Seymour and Gerry Welch are completing their second terms. Heather Sano has completed her first term and has respectfully declined to serve a second term.

The Nominating Committee this year consisted of Steve Baumgartner, Dick Seymour and Gerry Welch (Chair). After careful consideration, the committee presented the following slate to the Board at the May Board meeting:

- Nick Gottlieb for a first three-year term
- Ben Schmidt for a first three-year term.
- David Kennedy for a first three-year term

The slate was accepted unanimously by the Board.

Candidate Statements for the three nominees are included at the end of this report.

In accordance with the nominating procedures adopted in September of 2015, in addition to those nominated on the Board slate, any member may submit a nomination to the Board on or before July 10, 2023, by written or e-mail communication to the President, Susan Wise ([sico.president@macmahan.com](mailto:sico.president@macmahan.com)) or the Vice-President, Marian Yanega ([bobandmarian@verizon.net](mailto:bobandmarian@verizon.net)). These nominees will need to accept the nomination and write a brief candidate statement detailing their desire to be elected to the Board. All nominees will then be listed on the proxy mailing, posted on the website, and presented for vote at the August 5, 2023 Annual meeting.

The following qualities are desired in a Board member, including:

- time commitment to Board duties, including attendance at Board meetings
- skills that would be useful in current or anticipated community issues
- diversity of background
- ability to subordinate personal beliefs and styles to the needs of the whole community
- the ability to work together constructively with the other members of the Board

Respectfully submitted,  
Gerry Welch, Chair  
[Gerrywelch44@gmail.com](mailto:Gerrywelch44@gmail.com)

## SICO 2023 Board Slate

### Candidate Statements

#### **Nick Gottlieb**

##### Candidate Statement for SICO Board First Term

I was introduced to MacMahan in the summer of 1992, two weeks after Macky Alston and I first met – a visit that was immortalized in our wedding announcement in the New York Times 10 years later. I fell in love with the island – and with Macky – that weekend and have never strayed (from either). I was raised in Manhattan and still live there with our family, which now includes daughters Alice (20) and Penelope (16), and dog Cooper. I counts MacMahan among my spiritual homes. For the past three years, I have co-chaired the Recreation Committee, with Elizabeth Schaeffer Brown.

I have a broad background producing theater, film, television as well as events, fundraisers and political actions. I am also a trained psychotherapist and group facilitator, with years of experience in clinics and private practice. As the primary, ‘stay-at-home’ dad, I have become deeply involved in the life of the girls’ public schools and local politics. I had the opportunity to launch a brand-new performance venue, The Gym at Judson, in Greenwich Village, and then to organize the community in support of Little Island, the world class public park and performance space on the Hudson River. I served on the boards of Judson Memorial Church, Family Equality Council (advisory) and Manhattan’s Community Board 2. I have a BA from Yale College and an MSW from Smith College School for Social Work. I am a passionate cook and singer (tenor) and just performed Bach’s B-Minor Mass with the West Village Chorale.

#### **Ben Schmidt**

##### Candidate Statement for SICO Board First Term

My grandparents started coming to the Island in the early 60s when my grandfather completed two rotations as a minister at the chapel. After a few summers, they purchased our current cottage. The island has played an important role in our family and has been a part of my life since before I can remember. Growing up, I looked forward to MacMahan every year for our family vacation. As a teen, I worked in the post office for 2 summers and as an Island Boy for Pete Schuerch for 5 summers thereafter. Some of my favorite childhood memories occurred on island, usually revolving around adventures with my sister, cousins, and island friends.

When not on the island, I work as a Physician Assistant at Maine Medical Partners Neurology, primarily with stroke patients, from their initial presentation in the ED to post-hospitalization follow up in the clinic. Previously, I worked in Bangor, ME at Eastern Maine Medical Center’s acute inpatient rehabilitation unit for 4 years providing care for patients with stroke, traumatic brain injury, amputation, and a variety of other conditions. I trained as a Physician Assistant at Baylor College of Medicine and a received a BA in Mandarin Chinese (Economics minor) at Colgate University.

My primary purpose for seeking a board role is to support our island community as we adapt to modern needs while maintaining the sense of place that leads us all to love the island as it is. I would be excited to learn more about the island and our community via a board role.

#### **David Kennedy**

##### Candidate Statement for SICO Board First Term

It’s an honor to be considered for the Sheepscot Island Company Board of Directors, and to be offered the chance to contribute to the stewardship of the island and the community I love deeply. MacMahan is an extraordinary gift and has been and will remain so through the care and devotion of the generations of committed volunteers who have cherished, preserved, and enhanced it and its spirit. I’ve benefited from that my entire life, and, if I can now add my small contribution to that tradition, would welcome the opportunity. My work as a professor of criminal justice at John Jay College in New York City involves running an organization that designs research-based solutions to extreme violence and organizes large and disparate partnerships in cities nationally and internationally to put them into practice: skills that I think can contribute to addressing the island’s thankfully much less dire issues.