

Ad Hoc Senior Advisory Committee  
18 December 2019  
Location: 26 Fox Run, Kennebunkport

Attendance: Susan Boak, Amy Francis, Beverly Soule, Bill Leffler

Absent: Ken Olsen, George Acker

The meeting started with participation in the monthly telecom meeting run by Patricia Oh, AARP's Maine's Age Friendly consultant. That meeting is separately recapped by Patricia. Our participation allowed us to stay on the open channel afterwards as other participants signed off and in this way we managed a meeting between Patricia and our committee.

Patricia is already familiar with our committee. Kennebunkport is already doing age-friendly things but we have not applied to become Age Friendly Certified which would allow us to apply for age friendly project grants offered mainly through AARP.

Patricia explained 3 ways a Town could organize to become Age Friendly and then manage a large enough organization/committee to support various activities to improve the quality of life for senior town inhabitants.

- 1: Town appointed committee often with the town represented by a staff member.
- 2: 501C3 organization. This has some cost and paperwork but allows a larger group to be formed.
- 3: Grass roots. Independent organization with regular meetings and often formal membership – these groups often partner with another group.

Town liability issues were discussed in the event that volunteers were offering services (driving etc). Often the Town adds a codicil to the Town insurance which covers this.

We are a Town Committee but, as such, we are limited in size. Patricia suggested having the committee present our aims to the community at large so that we could attract volunteers who want to help in the community but who don't want to come to meetings as board/committee members. A member of the committee could coordinate volunteer efforts.

Patricia reviewed steps to developing an application, even mentioning that there are mini-grants to help with planning. A 3 year action plan has to be developed but should be flexible enough to allow reprioritization of objectives as needs change. She stated that a letter from the Town (Town Manager or Board of Selectmen) has to accompany an application but does not obligate the Town.

The 3 year action plan must be developed within 2 years after an application has been accepted.

Patricia Oh reiterated that AARP Age Friendly Certification gets grant access, network access and also national recognition that we do age friendly things.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Amy Francis