

Nicole Briand

From: Deb Smith <debreynolds.smith@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2024 8:55 PM
To: Nicole Briand
Subject: Age Friendly Committee request.

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Hi Nicole,

At this Monday's meeting, a member has asked, the board to take a stand on the the mass shootings in our community.

Here is the letter that was written on behalf of the committee to go to our State Rep. Sally Clukey.

Please advise as a town committee if we are allowed to send this and if it is considered a political stand on this important issue?

And, please review the meeting tape to see how members voiced their opinions.

Thank you,

Deb Smith

Age - Friendly Committee Member

 [draft letter to Sally C.docx](#)

Sally Cluchey

State Representative

Dear Sally,

The Town of Bowdoinham Age Friendly Committee wants to offer you support on the issue of safety from mass shootings. As the elders in the town, we join in the sorrow at the loss of innocent lives, and a wish for a safer community for ourselves and the children. We are pleased to see that you have had numerous conversations with many people about this issue.

It is of course a complex problem, yet it is also simple. We want a better future. We need better laws and more civility. As our representative to the legislature, which is currently in session, we ask that you help our state to move toward humanitarian measures, such as:

- improving the yellow flag law and instituting a red flag/ extreme risk protection law law

- banning assault weapons

- background checks

- 72 hour waiting period

- supporting mental health ride alongs with law enforcement agents where appropriate.

Thank you for all the many ways you support our community. Please continue to do what is needed to ensure the safety of our community, for ourselves, our children and our grandchildren. Our hearts hurt as we contemplate Max Zachau's testimony which as you know included "our laws give the ducks a better chance of getting away to safety than they give the children a chance to get away from school shooters".

Please do not hesitate to let us know when there are ways our committee can support your work and continue to keep us posted on how things are happening in the legislature.

Sincerely,

Bowdoinham Age Friendly Committee

Maureen Booth and Margaret Muir Co Chairs, Members Mary Kelley, Deb Smith, Lois Smith, Karen Mayo, Ann Hartzler, Grace McCarthy

TOWN OF BOWDOINHAM
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGE FRIENDLY BOWDOINHAM
BYLAWS

Adopted November 13, 2012

Amended January 14, 2014

Amended January 13, 2015

Amended July 11, 2017

Amended June 12, 2018

I. Purpose

The mission of the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham (ACOA) is to:

- Increase the services and programs that are available to residents of all ages and abilities in Bowdoinham by working with volunteer groups and partnering with local and regional organizations.
- Provide activities geared to keeping the residents of Bowdoinham healthy, active, and engaged in our community.
- Advise the Town of Bowdoinham Select Board about infrastructure and policy that will make it easier and safer for residents of Bowdoinham to thrive at all stages of life, regardless of ability.

II. Appointment

The municipal officers shall make appointments to the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham.

The Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham shall consist of at most 11 voting members with two alternates.

The term of each member shall be three years, except the initial appointments which shall be two appointments for one year, two appointments for two years and three appointments for three years. Alternate members shall be appointed for three-year terms. All newly designated committee members are to be sworn in by the Town Clerk.

A vote of a quorum may direct the action of the municipal officers to declare a permanent vacancy due to the unexcused absence of a member from three regular meetings of the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham in a twelve-month period. When there is a

permanent vacancy, the municipal officers shall within 60 days of its occurrence appoint a person to serve for the unexpired term.

III. Qualifications

Each member of the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham shall be: a. A legal resident of the Town of Bowdoinham.

IV. Compensation

There shall be no compensation provided for the members of the Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham.

V. Duties; Responsibilities

The Advisory Committee on Age Friendly Bowdoinham has accepted, as its priorities the needs reported in the Aging in Bowdoinham Report 2012 and in subsequent findings:

1. Information and referral
2. Increased communication
3. Accessibility
4. Development of a volunteer base
5. Promotion of inclusiveness
6. Care partner support
7. Partnering with volunteer groups to answer the following needs:
 - a. Help with chores in the home and basic home maintenance
 - b. Transportation

And identified the following duties and responsibilities:

1. Identification of what resources are in place and what can be added.
2. Work in partnership with other organizations.
3. Explore the possibilities of a community center.

The Committee will develop protocols and policies for the creation of new activities or offerings for the public to be recommended to the Town Manager from the committee's purview. These policies and protocols will provide guidance to any committee member or resident wishing to provide an additional activity so that approved activities are covered by the Town's insurance and can utilize the Town's facilities at no cost.

The Committee is also charged with implementation of the Age-Friendly Action Plan along with assistance from Town staff.

VI. Organization

The Committee shall elect a chair, vice chair and secretary at the first regular meeting of each fiscal year for a one-year term. Officers will be elected for a one-year term and can run for the same office the following year, to serve a maximum of three years consecutively in one office. After serving three years as chair, vice-chair, or secretary an ACOA member may not run for the same office again for three years but may fill another role as officer for the committee.

The chair shall call the meetings to order and conduct all business. If both the chair and vice-chair are absent, the members present shall choose a chair for that meeting by majority vote.

The secretary shall take the minutes at each meeting. If the secretary is not present or elected, then an individual shall be appointed at each meeting to record minutes.

Any member who has a direct or indirect pecuniary interest or who for other reasons has a bias in any question on which he or she must decide must make full disclosure of that interest or bias on the record and must abstain from voting or attempting to influence a decision in his or her capacity as a member. Any question of whether a member shall be disqualified from voting on a particular matter shall be decided by a majority vote of the members except the member who is being challenged. Such a member may participate as a member of the public.

The chair shall call at least one regular meeting each month unless there are no agenda items for a given regular meeting. The Committee may change the regular meeting day and/or start time by majority vote of its members. The chair may call special meetings when necessary.

Notice of special meetings shall be posted as required by law.

Whether by consensus or by vote, all decisions require at least a quorum of the committee to support it. No meeting shall be held without a quorum consisting of four members. If there be any vacancies, then a quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the current membership. In the event that a quorum is not present, committee may:

- Reschedule the meeting to another date and adjourn the meeting; or
- The committee may continue the meeting with the understanding that no official votes will be taken.

Notice of regular, special and rescheduled meetings shall be posted as required by law.

VII. Authority

The Committee recognizes that its purpose is to advise the Select Board and Town Manager on matters significant to an Age Friendly Bowdoinham, and recognizes that projects and ideas created by ACOA must be submitted and formally voted on by the Select Board, if not able to be approved by the Town Manager under his authority granted by the Select Board.

The Committee reserves the right to make small changes to previously agreed upon events, projects, and meetings without the formal vote of the select board. Changes of this nature include but are not limited to:

- Changing the date of public group meetings (cribbage, bridge, line dance, tech-time)
- Changing the location of public group meetings (cribbage, bridge, line dance, tech-time) as long as it adheres to the protocols agreed upon in section 5
- Changing the methods of advertisement (Newsletter, phone call, Facebook, etc.)

The Committee understands that, in the case of a conflict caused by the small changes, the small changes made to previously agreed upon events, projects, and meetings without the formal vote of the Select Board may be reviewed, amended, or denied by the Select Board or Town Manager. All of these changes shall be discussed with Town staff that are assigned to the Committee, including the Town Manager.

VIII. Amendments

Ratification and amendments of these by-laws will be reviewed annually in June and amendments must be approved by a majority vote of the committee and the Select Board.

Severability

The invalidity of any section or provision of these Bylaws shall not be held to invalidate any other section or provision of these Bylaws.

Originally signed and adopted by the Board of Selectmen on November 13, 2012.

Amended by the Select Board on January 14, 2014.

Amended by the Select Board on January 13, 2015.

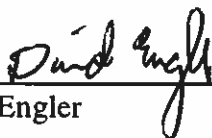
Amended by the Select Board of July 11, 2017.



Peter Lewis, Chair



Jeremy Cluchey, Vice-Chair



David Engler

Judith B. Gray
Judith Gray

Thomas Walling
Thomas Walling

Attest:
William S. Post
William S. Post, Town Manager