

MACHIAS REVITALIZATION COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 13, 2019
9:00 at Sunrise County Economic Council (SCEC) Building

Present: Angela Fochesato, Chair, Anne Ball, Maine Development Foundation (via Zoom), Christina Therrien, Machias Town Manager, Jim Jackson, member of the Re-enactors and the Historical Society, Sandi Malagara, Owner of Expressions and Bill Burke.

Public Comment: There was no public comment

Minutes: Motion by Jim, second by Christina to accept the minutes of the last meeting. All in favor.

Anne Ball announced that she will be the mentor for Machias instead of Ken Young. Anne stated that she need to know who will be the contact people for the Machias Downtown Revitalization Committee. Angela Fochesato and Bill Burke will be co-chairing the committee. Christina expressed her pleasure that Angela has agreed to stay on the committee and help through the development of the new Downtown Plan. Angela has a lot of knowledge from years of volunteering on this committee.

Anne stated that she still has not seen a signed copy of the National Main Street Agreement with Machias. Christina stated she is not aware of any unsigned document. Anne believes the document was sent back in April. Christina will look in her records to verify if a signed copy exists in the Town files.

Angela and Anne discussed the Age Friendly Community Plan and that the committee should start with the information in the hand-outs. There was a lot of discussion on what it means to be an Age Friendly Community and what the next step would be. Anne stated that an application will need to be completed and then there needs to be a signed letter of commitment. Angela will put out the application as a google document which can be shared as a working document. Everyone can brainstorm and share ideas. Anne will throw out some ideas and bullets. Angela will be the contact person on the application form.

The Town did not receive any Downtown funding through the CDBG Program. There is only around 300,000. For the whole State of Maine and competition is very tight. Anne stated there is grant funding for small communities through Land and Parks service for energy efficiency projects. There is some preservation funding for projects \$50,000 and greater. Anne would like to see an application from the Town of the Library.

Christina will email a copy of the current downtown plan to Angela so she can share with the committee via google docs.

Angela will setup a google poll to determine a good meeting day and time for the Downtown Committee going forward. Please keep in mind the application must be completed by October 17th.

The group adjourned at 10:15 a.m.