## Old Orchard Beach



August 1, 2017

Lori Parham AARP Maine State Director 53 Baster Street Portland, Maine 04101 lparham@aarp.org

Dear Ms. Parham:

Re: Application – Age Friendly Community

On behalf of the Town of Old Orchard Beach, please find a letter of commitment from the Old Orchard Beach Town Council in the creation of the age-friendly environment for our community. We request membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

The Town Council of Old Orchard Beach recognizes the need to lay a foundation for building a genuine community in which people are reconnected to the many aspects of the community in which they live. It is our desire to move forward recognizing the need for collective decision making and political responsibility. We recognize that in our hectic, fast-paced, consumer-driven society, it is common to feel isolated and alone. Our desire is to create a stable community in which the terrible disease of loneliness can be cured. We connect common understanding, common tradition, common ideas and common ideals to make our efforts successful.

The Assistant Town Manager, V. Louise Reid, who also acts as Secretary to the Town Council, reported that in the first meeting promoting an "Age Friendly Community" that they had over twenty-eight professional individuals attending who supported and encouraged moving forward with this Application. In addition she has also met with the representatives of the Biddeford and Saco Age-Friendly Committees about collaborating and joining their efforts as well.

Again, the desire is to provide to the most humble and weakest citizen the opportunity to enjoy the highest civil, economic and social rights that the biggest and most powerful possess. Through the means of speaking engagements, newsletters, press releases, Face Book, Web Site and other means of informational outreach, we anticipate a successful response to our efforts.

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We have put a great deal of effort into developing our goals and objectives within the World Health Organization's eight domains. We recognize that "peace of heart" comes from being able to contribute the best that we have, and all that we are, toward creating a world that supports everyone.

The Town Council of Old Orchard Beach, on August 1, 2017, at their official Town Council Meeting, supports the Application for Membership to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

We further acknowledge that at our first official meeting of the Council to be appointed on November 20, 2017, that the Council will at their November 21, 2017 meeting have a presentation to them by members of the "Age-Friendly" Committee as an expression of our total support of these efforts.

CHAIR JOSEPH THORNTON

VICE CHAIR SHAWN O'NEILL

**COUNCILOR KENNETH BLOW** 

COUNCILOR JAY KELLEY

COUNCILOR MICHAEL TOUSIGNANT