

Age-Friendly Sullivan Livable Communities, **AGENDA**
 Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 9a-10a, at **Sullivan Town Office**

	Topic	Discussion	Action
8:30am	Refreshments / Social	Meeting will begin at 9am: Gary & Jeanne Edwards, Sandy Fortin, Michael Fisher, Diana Gazis, Crystal Hitchings, Candy Eaton, Ray Weintraub, Misty Gleason, Don Snoke, Cyndi Stanley, (HCPC: Addison, Avery, Alice), Cynthia Perkins	Regrets: Trudy Lunt, Nadine Murphy, Andrea St. George Jones
9am	Guest Speaker: Crystal Hitchings, Director Community Promotion, Downeast Maine National Heritage Area SunriseCounty.org/nha/	<p>Crystal lives in Cherryfield, SMHS grad, returned 11 years ago, WCPC, office in Milbridge, living on the 400 acres grew up, pieces of past bringing into future;</p> <p>Economic development - tourism, downtown revitalization, now in National Heritage area (W/H counties completely);</p> <p>Program created by Congress 1984; power/resources into hands of local communities, interpret own heritage, federally designated / funded program, not a National Park/no ownership; funding comes through Park Service directly to Sunrise County, legislative designated; all 4 delegates incredibly supportive;</p> <p>National recognition of unique local heritage ultimately contributed to national story, living/working landscape (includes history); who are we, where are we, what is important?</p> <p>Requires relationship between people / landscape visible & opportunity exists to tell story. Still living today.</p> <p>Purpose - strengthening people/place - stewardship in natural resources way; instill passion in younger residents; building regional capacity; interconnected stories/economy/culture/families; collective understanding. Educational programs - history, all types; Economic development/sustainable tourism - pride in place, vibrant place to be; routed in local culture; local communities provide matching \$ to federal \$; projects - historic presentation, community events, parks & trails, 62 National heritage areas now; can create own story; 2020 feasibility study; 4 year process incredibly fast (congressional support), timing, local support; funded 15 years, renewals; overarching story/theme - supported by sub themes - natural landscape shapes us as people -</p>	

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Our story begins with unique landscape; created abundant natural resources - Wabanaki; granite; wild blueberries; fishing; continue today; boat building, lighthouses, preservation of open space, wildlife, international relationship with CA & Wabanaki;

Statement of National Importance:

Downeast Maine embodies a nationally important story about America's northern Atlantic coastal frontier and international relations with eastern Canada and the Wabanaki Tribes. Downeast Maine tells this story through an enduring natural-resources economy and nature-based way of life; naturally inspired and world-renowned tourism and arts; patterns of early American settlement; and deep relationships between the United States and Canada, and between Maine and the Wabanaki Tribes.

The landscape, people, and events of Downeast Maine have been and remain today examples of political, cultural, economic, and physical "borders" that create the unique experience of life on the easternmost edge of the United States. The cultural and natural borders and edges at interplay within this area of Maine, Wabanaki territory, and eastern Canada have helped to and continue to shape, supply, and inspire our national - and the people and communities of Downeast Maine - in numbers ways.

Discussion of Wabanaki member tribes; transportation routes; National Park Service will ensure native stories are included and heard;

Interpretive themes: 6: geology/climate/landscape; natural resources economy; arts/tourism/recreation; open space/wildlife; shipbuilding/mapping/navigation; national/intl boundaries/(Science); fisheries research; ocean; how to take it forward; partnership science/stewardship;

Purpose to help people find common ground to work together; initiated projects? Management planning process, dig thru questions/thoughts - 1/5/26 management (ACTION) plan completed; then start programs/projects (sub- granting process)

Link to feasibility study: <https://viewer.joomag.com/downeast-maine-national-heritage-area-feasibility-study/0424558001635455926>

	<p>Current Discussion & Project Updates:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 4/20 Earth Day - Schoodic Scenic Byway Cleanup & Cookout — co-chairs/date of event/volunteers - inventory assessment; signing up volunteers; 3 days - Chris Thornton picked up Tunk Lake Rd. (30+) bags; * NEW: Community Connector Pilot Program: goal is to reduce barriers to access services, programs and other supports to meet critical needs and to connect people to desired social opportunities. CCs will be people who live in the community and know it well. As trusted neighbors, CCs will help their fellow residents identify and access desired supports and make it more comfortable to accept help or to participate in social opportunities. CCs will be trained in the resources available, best practices for connecting people to needed services and programs, and in leadership development. (10-20 hrs/wk) 12 month commitment with stipend from UMaine Center on Aging. 	
	<p>Financial</p>	<p>Community Connector pilot project (above) \$20k - Sept 2024 CHEF grant possibility? \$2k-\$10k discussion. 2nd round</p>	
	<p>Community Organization Updates:</p>	<p>Frenchman’s Bay Library - thank you for support recent Cabin Fever fund-raiser Sorrento-Sullivan Historical Society - new program: 4/9 History Hour Swiss Chalet / Manor Inn; see website; Sullivan-Sorrento Recreation Center - April programs: 4/11 1p Coffee/ coffee cake; 4/16 2p Book Club - Dennis Damon video on Ruth Moore; 4/18: 1p “Bring back the pollinators”; 4/23: 1p Acadians in Maine - Maine Historical Society; 4/25: 1p Cardboard & compost - gardening technique. Schoodic Scenic Byway - 4/18 5:30 meeting @ SSRC re: grants/ projects in Sullivan - see info included in memo; Larry Johansson DOT coordinate town by-in; coordinate all groups</p>	
	<p>RSU#24 opportunities:</p>	<p>https://rsu24.maineadulted.org/classes/</p>	

	<p>Civic Engagement:</p>	<p>4/03: 6pm Infrastructure Committee meeting 4/04: 5pm Planning Board meeting 4/08 & 4/22: 5pm Sullivan Select Board meeting 4/10: 6pm Comp Plan meeting 4/11: 5pm Parks & Recreation Committee meeting 4/16: 6pm Sullivan Daze meeting RSU24 Budget to be presented 5/21 public meeting. 4/18: 2p Info Hearings - ordinances (Town Office/Zoom) 4/29: Special Town Meeting</p>	<p>Transfer Station special open on Weds 4/3 (closed Easter Sunday)</p>
	<p>Announcements/Updates</p>	<p>4/02: EAAA Food Distribution - applications at Town Office 4/16: Birthday Cards - 11:45a Town Office Tues/Thurs: 10:30-11:30 Bone Builders - openings available</p>	
	<p>Next meeting (in-person):</p>	<p>4/3/24: 5/1/24: Bob DeForrest, Maine Coast Heritage Trust 6/5/24: Sherry Billings, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity 7/3/24: NO MEETING — HAPPY SUMMER! 8/7/24: open 9/4/24: Barbara Shanahan, Schoodic Scenic Byway 11/6/24: Gianna Settin, Sorrento Reiki</p>	
	<p>Comprehensive Planning Stakeholder Questions with Alice Cockerham, HCPC</p> <p>Age-Friendly Sullivan discussion</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is your focus and/or primary responsibility? 2. What municipal services and facilities are needed? 3. What are your immediate needs? What are your future needs? 4. Where and what additional support and resources could you use? 5. What would you like to see come out of Sullivan’s comprehensive plan? 6. What are opportunities and/or concerns that should be addressed at a regional level? 7. Is there anything else that you would like to share about what Sullivan would look like in 10 years? 	<p>Brief description of Comp Plan: where you want to go, how you want to get there, 15 topic areas in Comp Plan.</p> <p>Alice took notes.</p>