

Age-Friendly Sullivan Livable Communities, **AGENDA**  
 Wednesday, May 1, 2024, 9a-10a, at **Sullivan Town Office**

	Topic	Discussion	Action
8:30am	Refreshments / Social	Meeting will begin at 9am; Don, Cyndi, Candy, Nadine, Beth, Alice, Michael, Cynthia P, Beth & Ray, Jeanne, Barbara, Misty	Regrets: Christina, Andy
9am	Guest Speaker: Bob DeForrest, MCHT	<p>Bob DeForrest, MCHT, maps for reference, land-trusts are sometimes conservancies, community-based non-profit orgs to conserve land, acquire / purchase / conservation easement; deed restrictions / right-of-ways; voluntary basis only; sell / donate land to MCHT (501(c)3; easements are legal tools to take away some of restrictions; conservation easement overseen by 3rd party, taking away certain rights voluntarily; recorded at Registry of Deeds/overseen by MCHT; MCHT works in perpetuity (some land-trusts work in time periods/lease period); protection of land/wildlife; incentives - charitable contribution, tax deductions; deed restrictions may not be permanent; scenic / recreational benefit; discussion of insurance; prove public benefit; Maine has really good landowner liability laws for free public access, increased liability for structures or gross structural hazard.</p> <p>MCHT (1970) organized to help facilitate ANP conservation easements, working with landowners; 1971 first facilitated easement working with Peggy Rockefeller; meet annually with all landowners to review success/challenges; 1980's started owning &amp; managing land; started on NEH / MDI, expanded to HQ/main office in Topsham (upstairs from Seadog); field office moved to Somesville, Bob's role is facilitating and working with landowners / municipalities / acquiring land / other projects that benefit communities.</p> <p>100 acre farm donated (Aldemere Farm) Rockport; new barn - upstairs to view calves; 4H;</p> <p>Another field office in Whiting, ME; old renovated farmhouse; MCHT Covers from Kittery to Treat Island, Lubec</p>	

		<p>Conserved 180k acres with partners; 337 coastal islands; 161 preserves; started with ANP, added scenic benefits (visual access); Work with communities within coastal zone; work with Maine land-trust network; Frenchman’s Bay Conservancy, Blue Hill Heritage Trust, Crabtree Neck Trust, Downeast Coastal Conservancy, Quoddy Regional Land Trust etc. (peak 108 land trusts);</p> <p>Bob - Working with FBC in Sullivan on Schoodic Bog (20 years ago); CNT in Hancock; streamline/consolidate 108 to 80 land trusts; 70 year-round staff plus seasonal crew, land protection (8) staff; stewardship staff; herd / farm manager; teens learn/manage gardens/food; 25k produce for food banks; Community gardens on MDI/Hancock; Milbridge Commons - incredible edible gardens / access to shore, protect mudflats, park,</p> <p>Must be strategic, focus areas, geographic regions (York Rivers to Cobscook Bay), access really important, real spike in desired access to outdoor recreation during Covid, upcoming presentation on Marsh conservation - guest speaker at Hancock Historical Society.</p> <p>Schoodic to Schoodic - Long Cove access property transfer to Sullivan, launch boats, harvesters, connecting Schoodic ANP to Schoodic Mtn/ Donnell Pond area (65 projects 5500 acres); Schoodic Woods campground 2005-2013, 3200 acre project; created campground &amp; hiking/bike trails; working with Schoodic Institute research projects - open to public</p> <p>Climate resiliency - more intense storms, bays warming up; storm damage, lobster harvesting, work on marshes (giant sponges), protecting large habitats that are resilient, wildlife migration, see tide graphs - 6” higher than usual;</p> <p>Bob also on Schoodic Scenic Byway / Downeast Trail; Cyndi assisted in shoreline access for Stave Island.</p> <p>MDI Housing Trust discussion - housing developments, covenants, restrictions, Schoodic is developing housing trust (Jackie Weaver, Eve Wilkinson); DI/S built 5 duplexes - rent-controlled;</p>	<p>Distribution of brochures</p> <p><b>FMI:</b> <a href="http://MCHT.org">MCHT.org</a></p>
<p>Current Discussion &amp; Project Updates:</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Birthday card donation note shared</li> <li>* 4/20 Earth Day - Schoodic Scenic Byway Cleanup &amp; Cookout — Thank you to all of our volunteers!!!</li> <li>* 5/27 Memorial Day observance at Gazebo — refreshments?</li> </ul>	

Financial	Community Connector pilot project \$20k - start Sept 2024 CHEF grant possibility? \$2k-\$10k discussion. 2nd round	
Community Organization Updates:	Frenchman's Bay Library - 5/4 Writer's Group (1st/3rd Sat); 5/4 Downeast Restorative Justice; StoryWalk (May) & StoryTime (June); 5/15 Annual meeting Sorrento-Sullivan Historical Society - 5/15 Swiss Chalet Manor Inn 7pm, online; Sullivan-Sorrento Recreation Center - public rentals;	
RSU#24 opportunities:	<a href="https://rsu24.maineadulted.org/classes/">https://rsu24.maineadulted.org/classes/</a>	
Civic Engagement:	5/01: 6pm Infrastructure Committee meeting 5/02: 5pm Planning Board meeting 5/06 & 5/20: 5pm Sullivan Select Board meeting 5/08: 6pm Comp Plan meeting 5/09: 5pm Parks & Recreation Committee meeting 5/21: 6pm Sullivan Daze meeting? <b>5/21: RSU24 Budget to be presented - public meeting.</b>	
Announcements/Updates	5/07: EAAA Food Distribution - applications at Town Office 5/21: Birthday Cards - 11:45a Town Office Tues/Thurs: 10:30-11:30 Bone Builders - openings available	
Next meeting (in-person):	6/5/24: Sherry Billings, Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity 7/3/24: <b>NO MEETING — HAPPY SUMMER!</b> 8/7/24: open - speaker TBD 9/4/24: Barbara Shanahan, Schoodic Scenic Byway 11/6/24: Gianna Settin, Sorrento Reiki	Summer Picnic in the Park Series begins Weds 7/10 - 8/14