

Town of Blue Hill

First Settled in 1762
Incorporated Jan. 30, 1789

**SELECTMEN
ASSESSORS**
OVERSEERS of the POOR
John Bannister
Jim Schatz
Vaughn Leach

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FIRE CHIEF
Denny Robertson

September 6, 2016

Lori Parham
AARP Maine State Director
53 Baster Blvd
Portland, ME 04101

Dear Ms. Parham:

On behalf of the Town of Blue Hill, I am pleased to submit this letter of interest and commitment in the AARP/World Health Organization Network of Age-Friendly Communities. Blue Hill recognizes the importance of encouraging and promoting age-friendly planning and programming to address changing demographics and to enhance independent living in our communities. We are happy to join the robust community collaboration coordinated by Healthy Peninsula that has brought many resources, programs and initiatives in support of active and healthy aging to our community. We look forward to continuing the community conversations and activities to further these efforts in the future.

Blue Hill, a town of approximately 2680 year-round residents, already has a high level of civic engagement and a strong sense of community. One third (31%) of our community members are 60 years old or older and more than half of all households include at least one person who is 60 or older. While we have a self-reliant and engaged community, we recognize that there is more to be done to make our community truly a livable community where seniors can age safely in their own homes and live full, active lives.

As part of our involvement and commitment, we will work with Healthy Peninsula to assess our community's age-friendliness and develop a community plan based on the findings of the assessment. We will involve older residents in the planning process and monitor progress toward implementing the action plan.

Sincerely,



James M. Schatz

For the Selectmen of Blue Hill