

# Membership Application

To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and the  
Real Possibilities **World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

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- If you have questions while completing this form, please email [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org).
- If you need additional space for answering the questions you may add an additional sheet of paper.

**APPLICATION SUBMISSION DATE: 7/31/2017**

## Section 1: COMMUNITY DETAILS

**NAME OF THE COMMUNITY:** Town of Old Orchard Beach, Maine

**STATE:** Maine

**POPULATION SIZE:** Old Orchard has approximately 10,800 year-round residents but approximately 75,000 summer visitors and tourists to our community during the summer months.

**PERCENTAGE OF RESIDENTS ABOVE THE AGE OF 60:** 51% 55-69 = 2,587; 70-79 = 1,105; 80+ - 530

**NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:**

Assistant Town Manager, V. Louise Reid

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 1 Portland Avenue, Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064

## Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The community contact is the local staff member or volunteer who is primarily responsible for carrying out the community-level work — it is not the responsible AARP staff member.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**Please describe the named person's role in the city or community's age-friendly initiative:**

Assistant Town Manager - The Assistant Town Manager is an essential member of the administrative staff in a position which requires extensive customer relations, problem resolution skills, computer competencies, varied knowledge of office practices and procedures, the ability to access law and practice and to interface and establish an effective working relationship with other departments and the general public. The employee must apply independent judgment based on knowledge gained through experience in performance of responsible and specialized duties. Written and verbal communication skills are a priority along with complex professional, administrative and business management skills. Confidentiality is absolutely required. She serves as Acting Town Manager in the absence of the Town Manager and serves as Secretary to the Town Council. She serves on Boards and Committees as assigned by the Town Council. The present Assistant Town Manager served seventeen years as a Salvation Army Officer; twenty-six years as Manager of Shareowner Relations at United Technologies Corporation; five years as Director of the Seaside Pavilion; and fourteen years as Assistant Town Manager.

### **Section 3: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ENGAGEMENTS and COLLABORATIONS**

**1) Please provide a brief summary of the community policies, programs and services that are targeted toward older people and how the community plans to become more age-friendly.**

**Old Orchard Beach is a chosen place for many seniors who have spent time here in their earlier years and when retirement came decided to retire here permanently. Both Old Orchard Beach and Ocean Park have those who depend on our municipality to provide a safe and accessible place for all needed services. The beautiful seven miles of beach, the collective support of all ages to our entire community, and an effective concentration on livability issues add to the attractiveness of our community. We aspire to be inclusive in our "Age-Friendly" Community and provide services and opportunities for personal growth, stability and economical opportunities. Groups such as The Salvation Army, The Pines, Community Neighborhood Watch, Community Animal Watch, the 0013365, the American Legion, local Churches, municipal General Assistance Programs, Rotary and Lions Clubs, and other organizations, committees and boards, enhance an overall outreach to seniors and others alike. Concentrating on issues such as transportation, health and public services issues, and communication and information outreach will permit us to individually target areas of need for the aging population. The support of not only local groups but our Town Council enhances our recognition of important results.**

**2) How will the community engage and involve older people in the process of becoming a more age-friendly?**

Some of the areas in which we will concentrate will be the development of an effective survey which will define the needs of those we desire to serve. In addition we plan to have communication improvements through the development of a quarterly newsletter, press releases, Face Book, the Web Site, our logo display. In our first meeting last June we had over twenty-eight professionals who joined us to indicate their interest in being part of this important project and our next meeting with those individuals will be in September when we outline our specific goals and objectives. The survey that we are developing will be sent out in November with possible finalization in the new year. This will assist us in assuring that our goals and objectives are reliable to meeting the needs that are being presented. We also are having the introduction of our program at the first meeting of the newly elected Town Council in November of 2017. We have already begun a plan for a massive down-town celebration in June of 2018 of "Age Friendly Community" efforts. We are also planning on employing speaking engagements as a means of getting our message out to the community — promoting the aims and objectives of our mission statement.

**3) Briefly describe the mechanisms the community has or is planning to put in place to facilitate collaborative planning and implementation between different agencies and departments.**

This week our meeting will begin with the Team Leadership, choosing the Facilitator; assigning Committees to work under the Facilitator, forming and enlisting the Circle of Engagements and already aligning ourselves to a presentation to the Town Council on November 21, 2017, the first meeting of the newly elected Town Council. We have already met with our two surrounding communities, Biddeford and Saco, and have acknowledged our interest in joining them in the program of an "Aging Friendly Community." We have seriously and passionately developed that those involved in the promotion of the program by associated with groups such as the Library, the Food Pantry, The Salvation Army, The Pines, Recreation Department, Planning and Code, Police and Fire, Churches, Red Hat Ladies, General Assistance, Senior Groups, The American Legion, The Rotary Club, 006365, etc. We have key individuals in key positions with the ability to network and call in the expertise of many across the board areas.

**Section 4: NETWORK MEMBERSHIP**

Your answers to the following questions will help us complete your membership in the global age-friendly network and better enable us to understand how to support the network.

**4) How do you hope to contribute to the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?**

The recognition we have is that there is something which everybody wants and yet almost everyone fears — growing old. We are anxious to be part of this mission because we realize that we have in many measures helped people getting old rather than helping them enjoy it. We talk about the "Golden Years" but for many they do not find much gold. However, we believe that there is a treasure — if you know where to look. With age comes the realization that it is possible to live these times with grace and dignity and that is part of our goal in joining the network.

**5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?**

"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. It is also securing the space for others to contribute the best that they have and all that they are as well." We are anxious to be an instrument of positive change and utilize our efforts both in strategy and administration of a program that will enhance the good life for those who live in our community, Age brings a sense of mortality strengthening the motivation to live each day to its fullest. Deriving our strength from each other's involvement we will use our resources to encourage, enrich and enlighten those whom we serve. It has been said — "We can never get a re-creation of community without giving our citizens a sense of belonging and that is our main objective. The good we secure for ourselves is precarious and uncertain until it is secured for all of us and incorporated into our common life." We hope to open untapped reservoirs for our citizens — both old and young.

**6) Please provide a digital (JPG, PNG or PDF) file or link of a logo or other image that represents your community.**

The image resolution should be at least 72 dpi. As an example of an image, here's ours >



*Click here to add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send us your logo by email attachment to [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org).*

EXCERPT FROM MINUTES OF TUESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2017  
TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH  
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
Tuesday, August 1, 2017  
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS  
6:30 p.m.

A Town Council Meeting of the Old Orchard Beach Town Council was held on Tuesday, August 1, 2017. Chair Thornton opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

The following were in attendance:

Chair Joseph Thornton  
Councilor Kenneth Blow  
Councilor Jay Kelley  
Councilor Michael Tousignant  
Town Manager Larry Mead  
Assistant Town Manager V. Louise Reid

Absent: Vice Chair Shawn O'Neill

# 6986 Discussion with Action: Approve the Application to the AARP for the creation of an age-friendly environment for our community and request membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

BACKGROUND:

The Town is actively pursuing the designation of "Age Friendly Community" and the Town Manager has asked the Assistant Town Manager to address the application process. A meeting of twenty-eight professionals met recently at Town Hall to address the interest in this designation.

V. Louise Reid  
Assistant Town Manager

It is a real privilege for me to welcome you to this meeting on "Age Friendly Communities." There is something which everybody wants and yet almost everyone fears — growing old. Three things happen when you get old — first you lose your memory and then .....I forgot the other two. It has been said that you know when you are growing old — when the candles cost more than the cake. I can speak from experience when I say that I am old enough to see how little I have done in so much time — and how much I have to do in so little time left.

We are here today because I believe we all recognize that we have put more effort into helping folks get old than helping them enjoy it. We will consider areas that we can promote opportunities for growing old to be a time of growth. We talk about old age being the "Golden Years" but for many they do not find much gold. However, there is treasure, if you know where to look. I personally believe that with age comes the realization that it is possible to live these times with grace and dignity.

My own faith allows me to believe and experience that which is written in the Scriptures: "Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither can be comprehended, that which the Lord has prepared for us." "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. It is also securing the space for others to contribute the best that they have and all that they are as well. That is why we are here today.

It has been said:

If you keep living long enough you'll reach a day when the person in the mirror seems much older than the person on the inside looking back. It's then that you begin to understand the difference between the body and the soul.  
One wears and withers away with time.  
The other only gets wiser and stronger with time.  
Somewhere in this perplexing disconnect is a truth to be learned.  
Are we to live our lives as though we were a body?  
Or should we live them as though we were a soul?  
Perhaps the answer is a little bit of both.

It is my pleasure again to welcome you here. I would like us to just introduce ourselves and if you represent a particular organization or line of work, mention that as well.

I would like to introduce to you our Town Manager, Larry Mead, for a few words and then we will move on with the Agenda.

August 1, 2017

Lori Parham  
AARP Maine State Director  
53 Baster Street  
Portland, Maine 04101

[lparham@aarp.org](mailto: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.

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.

## Membership Application

Real Possibilities To join the **AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities** and the **World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities**

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### NAME AND TITLE OF THE ELECTED OFFICIAL SIGNING THE OFFICIAL COMMITMENT:

Assistant Town Manager, V. Louise Reid

**OFFICE ADDRESS OF THE SIGNER:** 1 Portland Avenue, Old Orchard Beach, Maine 04064

### Section 2: COMMUNITY CONTACT FOR THE AARP NETWORK OF AGE-FRIENDLY COMMUNITIES

The community contact is the local staff member or volunteer who is primarily responsible for carrying out the community-level work — it is not the responsible AARP staff member.

**NAME;** V. Louise Reid

**POSITION;** Assistant Town Manager

**EMAIL ADDRESS:** lreid@oobrnaine.com

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** 207-284-3652 and 207-934-5714, extension 1526

**Please describe the named person's role in the city or community's age-friendly initiative:**



Assistant Town Manager - The Assistant Town Manager is an essential member of the administrative staff in a position which requires extensive customer relations, problem resolution skills, computer competencies, varied knowledge of office practices and procedures, the ability to access law and practice and to interface and establish an effective working relationship with other departments and the general public. The employee must apply independent judgment based on knowledge gained through experience in performance of responsible and specialized duties. Written and verbal communication skills are a priority along with complex professional, administrative and business management skills. Confidentiality is absolutely required. She serves as Acting Town Manager in the absence of the Town Manager and serves as Secretary to the Town Council. She serves on Boards and Committees as assigned by the Town Council. The present Assistant Town Manager served seventeen years as a Salvation Army Officer; nearly six years as Manager of Shareowner Relations at United Technologies Corporation; five years as Director of the Seaside Pavilion; and fourteen years as Assistant Town Manager.

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### Section 3: COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES, ENGAGEMENTS and COLLABORATIONS

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Membership Application: AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities—Page 2

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#### 5) What motivated your community to join the AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities and the World Health Organization Global Network of Age-Friendly Communities?

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*Click here to add a link to where we can find your logo. Or, send us your logo by email attachment to [livable@aarp.org](mailto:livable@aarp.org).*

MOTION: Councilor Blow motioned and Councilor Kelley seconded to Approve the Application to the AARP for the creation of an age-friendly environment for our community and request membership to the World Health Organization's Global Network of Age-Friendly Cities and Communities.

The Chair thanked the Assistant Town Manager for the amount of work that has gone into the application process for the creation of an Age-Friendly Community.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

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V. Louise Reid  
Town Council Secretary

I, V. Louise Reid, Secretary to the Town Council of Old Orchard Beach, Maine, do hereby certify that the foregoing document consisting of sixty-five (65) pages is a copy of the original Minutes of the Town Council Meeting of August 1, 2017.

V. Louise Reid