



JULY 2021 MONTHLY REPORT to the SELCT BOARD
Office of the Community Development Director

Kudos to Recreation Department Director Gary Colello for pulling off a great Fourth of July Fireworks Celebration just before the rain came, and to all who ran in the Four on the Forth event, and marched and watched the parade! Such a welcome trifecta of events after a difficult year under Covid.

The Select Board approved the Community Development office restarting the dormant Micro-Loan Program to help small businesses (of five or less employees) by offering up to \$2,500 in grants and up to \$7,500 in no-interest loans. Next steps are to modify the original program documents and update the application form, form a committee made up of a Select Board member, an accountant or business financial expert, a business leader from our community, and ex officio (non-voting) members Town Manager and Community Development Director. We will work with a local bank to administer the transactions including the loans. We hope to announce the availability of funds this fall.

The Resilience Pilot Project purposed to prepare our community for potential risks of climate change got off to a great start. The program comes out of the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future, with our cohort made up of the towns of Bridgton and Windham and led by the Greater Portland Council of Governors. Two workshops have been held to date with the third coming up in September at which specific policy and project approaches will be considered. Anyone interested in participating in this effort can contact CDD Administrative Assistant Courtney Kemp at CKemp@BridgtonMaine.org.

The Consolidation of the Land Use Ordinance with Site Plan, Shoreland Zoning, Subdivision, Building, Raising, and Plumbing Permit Ordinances took shape in July and will be headed to the voters in November if put forward by the Select Board in August. The Consolidation addresses conflicts, duplications, and a number of substantive issues in an effort to simplify the application process and delivery of information to developers and residents. Changes to the Consolidation were headed up by the Planning Board with guidance from town counsel and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection.

New businesses have moved into town! Stop by to have sushi and tacos at Elevation on Main Street and sourdough artisan pizza at Nora Belle's just behind Elevation on Cottage Street. New in town too is a great energy tea and protein shake shop on Maine Street next to Scout. Check it out for a pick-me-up on one of these sultry days. Also to note is smoothie shop Nectar's move to their new location at the Highland Lake Resort.

New Bridgton SWAG is available at the Town Office. This year's logo offerings include grey and teal sweatshirts with embroidered logo, baseball T's and a super soft V-neck T, floating key holders for use on the lakes, baseball caps and trucker hats, incredibly absorbent big Turkish towels and large canvas tote bags with embroidered logo, along with white or royal blue camper mugs with the Love Always logo. 100% of the proceeds from logo wear are directed to the Recreation Department to help fund camp scholarships. We encourage all to stop by and have a look!

Cheers,
Linda LaCroix, Community Development Director