

**AD HOC FALMOUTH SENIOR CITIZEN
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

***2016 REPORT AND
RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR SERVICES TO
FALMOUTH'S SENIOR CITIZENS***

About 20% of Falmouth's residents are senior citizens.

“At 47.8 years old, Falmouth residents are older, on average, compared to those in Cumberland County, Maine, and the United States. “

Falmouth Economic Improvement Committee Draft Study, April 2015,

“Falmouth has the highest percentage of residents over the age of 75 in Southern Maine. Its median age increased by more than 5 years over the last 20 years. “

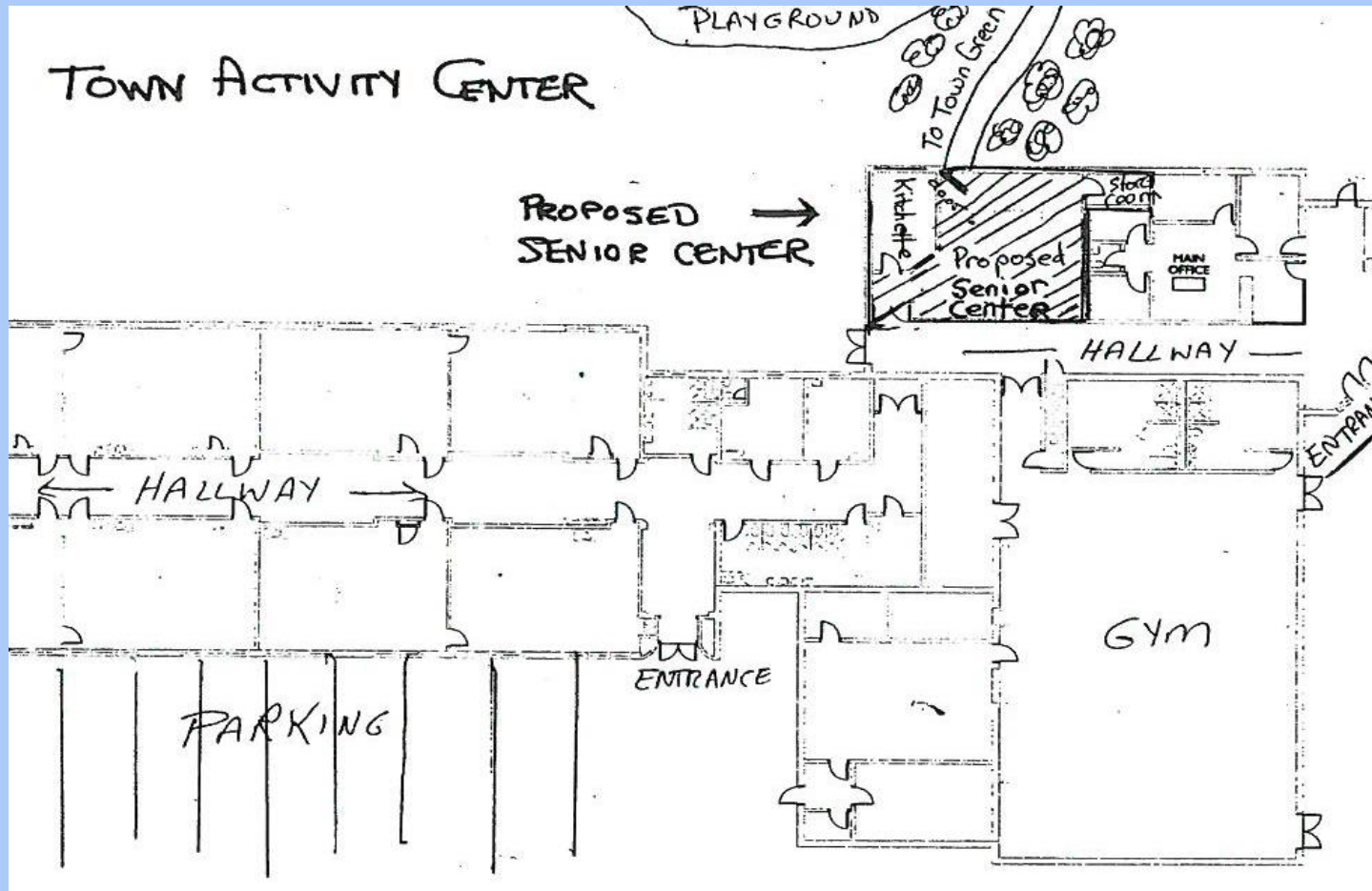
Recommended Programs,
Services, Facilities,
and Funding

1. Implement the Senior Center Plan Designed by Port City Architecture

Since the Committee's Report to the Council in 2015, the Town has retained Port City Architecture to design a Senior Center in the Mason-Motz Activity Center. It includes a kitchen, flooring, lighting, a back door to the Town Green, comfortable furniture, café tables, and artwork.

The Committee supports the design and urges the Council to approve its implementation for construction this fall and winter.

SENIOR CENTER LOCATION IN MASON-MOTZ ACTIVITY CENTER





MEETING ROOM



AREA FOR KITCHEN

Hospitable Senior Center



Social Hour



Creative Arts

Construct a walkway, benches, landscaping and signage on the Town Green next to the Senior Center .

An outdoor park extension of the Senior Center would enable seniors to enjoy outdoor socializing, programs, and walks.

The Senior Center's back door and path would lead directly to the park. A "Town Green" sign would inform residents that the Green is a public area.

Senior Center Outdoor Park on Town Green



Paved walkway & shade trees



Outdoor tables & benches



Window to convert
to back door



Path to Town Green
from back door

2. Add to the Evolving Programs at the Senior Center

Build on Parks and Community Programs' evolving programming, including educational lunch and learn programs, cards and board games, musical entertainment, and coffee socials.



Games



Lunch and Learn Programs

3. DEVELOP A VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION ASSISTANCE NETWORK

Foster a volunteer transportation network for residents who need transport to the Senior Center, medical appointments, food shopping and other basic needs.



4. Hire a Part-time Senior Services Coordinator

A Senior Services Coordinator would:

- Advocate for seniors
- Be a services and programs information resource for seniors
- Help seniors navigate among services and programs
- Assist with Senior Center programming
- Coordinate Town senior citizen services, including volunteer transportation and assistance networks
- Help obtain grants
- Solicit community contributions

5. Extend the term of the Committee to September 2017 to:

- Advise Town Council on the implementation of its approved Recommendations;
- Help develop a senior citizen volunteer network;
- Research other senior resident concerns;
- Develop a recommendation for a permanent committee or commission
- Make further recommendations on:
 - ❖ Regionalized services;
 - ❖ Public-private partnerships;
 - ❖ Tax relief measures for seniors;
 - ❖ Fuel and meals assistance for seniors; and,
 - ❖ Affordable senior housing

The Committee's five recommendations:

- ***Are consistent with the Comprehensive Plan;***
- ***Are consistent with the Committee's Survey;***
- ***Are consistent with senior services studies;***
and,
- ***Were unanimously endorsed by Town stakeholders at the August 2015 Stakeholders' meeting.***