

# MANP Candidate Questionnaire 2018

Through this questionnaire Maine offers Maine candidates for publicly elected office the opportunity to reach our vital constituency and let them know how you would partner with them to advance policies that would strengthen Maine. Our goal is to promote an educated and enthusiastic nonprofit community that votes.

## Did You Know?

Maine nonprofits:

- Employ 1 in 6 workers in Maine;
- Contribute approximately \$11 billion per year to the economy through wages paid, retail and wholesale sales, and professional services contracted;
- Pay \$4.3 billion annually in wages, which translates to approximately \$264 million in personal income tax revenue; and
- Mobilize 345,000 volunteers each year to improve communities!

## Your Name \*

Bonnie Young

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## Office Running For \*

- U.S. Senate
- U.S. House
- State Senate
- State House

## District

121

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Please describe your personal and professional experiences with nonprofit organizations. \*

I've worked with some. MOGFA is the most current and active in the last few years. I've sat on the Common Ground Steering committee, and run one of the educational tents at the fair.

Please provide specific ways in which, if elected, you would partner with the nonprofit sector to advance policies that strengthen Maine.

I believe that people have better answers than government does, thus the non-profits who are working in a field would have the best, most accurate, information on how to help the people in Maine. Since I believe every voice should be heard, voices from non-profits come with "boots on the ground" and most defiantly should be a part of the conversation.

What is your position on property tax exemption for Maine nonprofit property owners?

I am unsure. I'm a libertarian which means I'm not for taxes, however I'm talking to a lot of people who's property taxes are going up and they are having trouble making them. Our seniors are losing their home because of this, and currently the state hasn't passed the law that would stop that. Then I look at Howland, who reworked their public safety department, provided more services and LOWERED the towns property taxes - so there is another way of doing it, and would like to see if other towns can do the same. I also don't know how many non-profits own property and where, are they clustered in an area that has high property taxes? I would NOT support taxing them to raise revenue for more spending, but if it was used to lower everyone's then maybe. I don't have enough information, at this point, about the numbers, and impact to have a position at this point.

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