

FREELANCERS OVER FIFTY
P. O. Box 1167
Cambridge, MA 02238

Copy

September 4, 1990

TO: City Councillor Jonathan Meyers
City Hall, Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Councillor Meyers,

FRELANCERS OVER FIFTY

WHAT ARE WE?

We are a Cambridge based organization formed in 1988 by the merger of two small groups - Freelancers Over Fifty and Fifty Plus. Last February, we were granted a 501(c)(4) - tax exempt status from U.S. Internal Revenue Service. We have formed a separate organization Freelancers Over Fifty Foundation which will be a 501(c)(3) as advised by IRS in a meeting in Washington, D.C.

The Freelancers Over Fifty organization is devoted to the Counselling, Training and assisting its clients in obtaining work assignments..

Its clients are independent professionals over the age of 50. Some have been independent consultants/freelancers for many years; others have adopted this category as a result of mergers, down-sizing, layoffs and not being able to find suitable employment. (Approximately one-fifth of our clients are Cambridge residents.)

Our organization works closely with Gray Panthers also based in Cambridge, Operation ABLE, and the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. While awaiting our 501(c)(3), we have been "sponsored" by the East End House located on Spring Street, near our location at 501 Cambridge Street.

Many people in our organization, many Cambridge residents network at 501 Cambridge Street on a weekly basis, when we have our "drop-ins". Others use our facilities for meeting with clients, meeting with other Freelancers for joint projects, or just to have a place to go when they first are "laid off."

We find that some of the people coming into our office begin having housing problems, "drinking" problems, marital problems, and carry much stress as a result of not having "money coming in regularly." The job market does not seem to want those over fifty, and finding assignments on one's own becomes difficult when one is over fifty.

Our current location, 501 Cambridge Street, 2nd floor, is now owned by the U.S. Trust Company. Up until this time the space has been given to us - first by FTP Software which moved from Cambridge to Wakefield, and then by Hammer, Keifer and

Todd, architects located on the 3rd floor of our building.

Insurance coverage has been paid by the East End House for this year.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to Congressman Joseph Kennedy. This letter outlines what we would like to see happen on a Federal level. Some of our requests can however be achieved on a State level, and perhaps on a City/Town level.

Cambridge is the first City that we have contacted regarding our program. This, no doubt, is because we have more Cambridgians than citizens of any other individual town/city in Massachusetts.

We would like to work with the City Council and see where it can help us - help us to achieve jobs/assignments for our clients; to help the businesses in Cambridge benefit from the many years of experience of our colleagues. Those that are listed in our directory, represent over 70 professional categories.

Our people can save companies money - not cost them money.

In addition to the Kennedy letter, we have included other material we have developed about our group and also some of the articles that have been written about us.

Looking forward to working with the City of Cambridge in an effort to help the older displaced worker.

Sincerely,

(B) George Washington Gaur.

Rick Winterson
President

Enclosures

5. S-867

Comm. from Rick Winterson, President of
Freelancers Over Fifty, 501 Cambridge St.,
transmitting information regarding his
organization.

In City Council,

Sept. 17, 1990

Placed on file

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
SEP 13 PM 1:26
CAMBRIDGE MA.