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Main Street Community Foundation celebrates 30 years, \$30.9 million in grants

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The Main Street Community Foundation at its annual meeting
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BRISTOL – The Main Street Community Foundation elected three new board members and celebrated its accomplishments in 2024 at its 30th annual meeting

The meeting, which was attended by founders, board members and past leadership, saw the Foundation reflect on the past as it looks to its future.

“Last year saw the distribution of a record \$2.7 million to support the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville, Plymouth, Southington and Wolcott,” Samantha Rajotte, scholarship and program officer with the Main Street Community Foundation said.

With the funding awarded last year added to the total, the Main Street Community Foundation has now awarded \$30.9 million since it was founded 30 years ago.

The Foundation also celebrated the establishment of 12 new funds last year by “local individuals, families and organizations to support causes they care about to better their communities.”

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of the Main Street Community Foundation, said the Annual Meeting is also an opportunity for the Foundation to hear directly from an organization that benefited from its grants and the generosity of its donors.

This year, Mary Etter, Executive Director of the Bristol Adult Resource Center, spoke to attendees about the organization's dedication to helping local adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities maximize their independence. She also spoke about the ways MSCF has supported that mission.

"The Foundation has several funds that directly benefit BARC and has awarded grants throughout the years for a variety of programs," Sadecki said.

A 2024 grant allowed BARC to purchase new equipment for their Yard Services program.

In addition, three individuals were newly elected to the Board of Directors. The appointees were Bristol residents Jonathan Donovan, an attorney who practices in Plainville, Jessica Pieri, an attorney in the insurance field, and Scott Rosado, the owner of M.R. Homecare.

Michael Sweeney and Andrea Wasley were also reelected to the Board of Directors for a second term.

Sadecki said the Foundation's Board consists of "community leaders" charged with "ensuring donors' intentions are fulfilled in perpetuity," all of whom "take the responsibility very seriously."

"For 30 years, local residents have committed their time and valuable expertise to the Foundation as well as their knowledge of the communities where they live and work," Sadecki said. "To all those past and present we are forever grateful."

The Main Street Community Foundation will continue to celebrate its anniversary with “The Main Event 30th Anniversary Celebration - Meet Us On Main Street.” This event will be held Sept. 13. from 6 to 10 p.m. at The Aqua Turf Club at 556 Mulberry St., Plantsville.

For more information, visit mainstreetfoundation.org/30-anniversary.

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