

In many ways 2020 was not unlike a tale of two cities for our Main Street Clinton districts. It was often the best of times, while on some fronts the worst of times as the reality of the vacant property began to set in. On a positive note, we continued to hold quality events throughout the year. These events attracted thousands of citizens and visitors to our Main Street districts and engaged hundreds of volunteers.

Our volunteer committees were once again very active in 2019. They worked hard accomplishing program goals to benefit our community. Active committees include the Design Committee, Promotions Committee, Economic Vitality Committee, Organizational Committee (the Board of Directors), Boulevard Steering Committee, Cruzin' Clinton Car Show Committee, and the Red Brick Roads Committee.

The Promotions Committee oversaw our many established annual events which bring thousands of visitors and citizens out to enjoy our community. In their twelfth season the Olde Towne Markets continue to be one of the more popular events that we hold. 1,000 marching in the Caterpillar Parade and around 5000 people attended at the 12th Annual Holiday Market. Dinner and Movie nights, Just the Girls, and the Fresh at Five Farmers Markets all experienced growth and community support. Back to the Bricks, Olde Towne After Dark, and the Cruzin' Clinton Car Show, too, were wonderful events with tremendous community and business support. The partnership with the Clinton Chamber of Commerce to hold the 4th Annual Red Brick Roads Music and Arts Festival was again a huge success with around 5,000 in attendance over the two days. In its second year, the home brew competition experienced tremendous growth. New to the festival was the Red Brick Roads Talent Competition. Red Brick Roads is one of the most challenging and rewarding events that we hold.

The Boulevard Business District had another great year with the 4th Annual BBQ on the Boulevard where they added over a thousand dollars to the competition prize money. The Boulevard Steering Committee worked diligently throughout the year to plan the event held on October 12. Money raised at the event helped to fund the installation of the Boulevard Cars public art project. Three cars have been installed with one more to follow in the spring of 2020.

Annually Main Street continues to hold 55-60 events, which averages to more than one event a week. This feat would not be possible without our great staff: Anna Boyd Hawks, Jackie Massey, Robert Bethany, and new to the team, Lindsay Letson. These talented and committed individuals help ensure that we keep up with the increasing demands of our full event schedule.

Our volunteers continue to be the heartbeat of our organization. Main Street has numerous opportunities for people to engage and find a variety of ways to give back to the community. Each year our non-profit board continues to have wonderful leadership and community support both financially and through volunteerism.

2029 Main Street Clinton Board of Directors

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All years have their challenges and 2020's will include how we address the property vacancies on Jefferson Street. In spite of this situation which we have no control over, we will focus on the things that we can control. We will promote the businesses that we do have and create quality events that our citizens will be proud to attend. We still have the most charming authentic downtowns in the metro area which many neighboring towns try to replicate. There is no other place quite like ours. We should all be proud!