## BRISTOLX CORE

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As the snow slowly arrives, we are thinking back to summer and the amazing return of *Pocock Rocks* to Main Street. It had been four years since we last had so much music, dancing, and fun on Main Street. The bands, the food, and the games (and the weather) made for a great community party.

Also returning this summer was the *Bristol Farmers Market* on the Town Green on Mondays. With a combination of a Better Places Grant and the Town of Bristol's ARPA funds, a reimagined and revitalized market returned after a long hiatus. Though Monday evenings often brought rain this summer, they also brought freshly harvested produce, lu•lu Ice Cream, So-Full Sisters, Lewis Creek Farm, Lower Notch Berry Farm, La Chapina Guatemalan Food, and some artistic Bristol kids selling their wares.

Did you know that *Pocock Rocks* and the *Bristol Farmers Market* were brought to you by Bristol CORE? That's right, Bristol CORE, the non-profit downtown group with its volunteer board of local merchants and community members, is committed to increasing and maintaining the Bristol downtown area's economic vitality and organizing and promoting community events for Bristol citizens. Bristol CORE also focuses on Bristol's beautification and economic development projects and programs.

And have you enjoyed the frivolity of *Chocolate Walk* and the magic of the *Lumen Celebration* of Fire & Light in December? That's Bristol CORE, too! Bristol CORE is busy keeping Bristol's Main Street active, vital, and fun for the Bristol community and all of Addison County. Those flower baskets on Main Street and the new picnic tables on the green? You guessed it, Bristol CORE.

The Bristol CORE board continues to evolve with the addition of Gary Barrowsii and Brad Cameron. Thanks to outgoing board members Aidan Lenihan and Kelly Hamshaw for their work this past year.

In January 2024, Bristol CORE's Executive Director, Alicia Standridge, announced that she would be stepping down from the position. The Board of Directors will soon be launching a search for her replacement. The Board is very grateful for Alicia's time as Executive Director of this organization, championing several initiatives, sustaining annual events, and developing new partnerships.

While the board and many other community members volunteer their time, these events and projects require funds, so we are writing to ask you to support Bristol CORE and all the great work it does for our community.

Fundraising, sponsorships, and volunteer person-power enable Bristol CORE to implement the projects and events that keep Bristol buzzing. A town appropriation provides a third of our

funding, and we are truly grateful for the support of the Town Administrator, the Selectboard, and taxpayers in our fantastic community.

We welcome your ideas, involvement, enthusiasm, and financial support! To learn more about our signature events and current projects, get involved, or make a tax-deductible contribution, please visit our website, www.bristolcore.org.

Respectfully submitted, Bristol CORE Board of Directors

**Board Members:** 

Ian Albinson, Maura Donnelly, Meridith McFarland, Taylor Welch, Brad Cameron, Gary Barrowsii

Ex-officio: Valerie Capels, Town Administrator



