



Samantha Rajotte

Dan Daigle getting the gavel from Scott Fournier as chair of the Main Street Community Foundation.

Main St. Foundation marks \$2.4M in grants, elects officers

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BRISTOL — The Main Street Community Foundation celebrated the distribution of a record \$2.4 million in grants last year and appointed new officers at its annual meeting March 15.

Every year MSCF gathers together board members, past leadership and founders for a year-end review and to celebrate another year of successful grant-making, community partnerships, and building a charitable base for the future. The meeting also saw the appointment of new members to MSCF's Board of Directors, who are charged with guiding the work of the organization as they support the communities of Bristol, Burlington, Plainville,

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Plymouth and Wolcott.

With the \$2.4 million awarded in 2023, the total amount awarded from MSCF since its establishment in 1995 to \$28.2 million. Additionally, the foundation received \$2.2 million in contributions last year and six new funds were established by local individuals, families and organizations to support causes they care about to better their communities.

The annual meeting is also a moment to celebrate and hear directly from grantees that have been impacted by the work of MSCF and the generosity of donors. This year, Sabrina Trocchi, president and CEO of Wheeler Health, speak about the commitment to community health and the ways MSCF has supported that mission.

MSCF has awarded grants to Wheeler Health for a variety of programs for many years, from their Walk With Me program to the Southington Community Health Outreach Initiative, all to assist them in their role as a one-stop-shop for care for all ages.

"More than anything, we provide hope," Trocchi said at the meeting.

MSCF elected and welcomed two new board members at the Annual Meeting: Paula Knight of Southington, a lifelong educator, and Wyland Dale Clift, also of Southington, an accomplished attorney with deep roots in Bristol. Both will serve on the board for a three-year term.

Additionally, this meeting oversaw the re-election of board members Megan Albanese, Jarre Betts, and

Rebecca Zappone, and the election of key officer positions.

Daniel Daigle was elected as chair, Kathryn Reinhard as vice chair, William Micari as secretary, and Kyle Biddick as treasurer, while Scott Fournier moved into the position of past chair.

Susan Sadecki, president and CEO of MSCF, 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."

"The Board of Directors plays an essential role in guiding the Foundation's work in the region," said Sadecki. "We are grateful for their generous commitment of time and the valuable expertise each brings to the Foundation as well as their

knowledge of the communities where they live and work."

Marguerite Fletcher of Bristol was also recognized for her dedicated service as she retired from the board. She served for 12 years and held three positions during that time, including treasurer, chair, and past chair. Sadecki added that she also served on "every committee" and volunteered for many events and projects. Fletcher, she said, has "been a devoted volunteer to MSCF since its beginning, always willing to attend events on the Foundation's behalf and spread the word of its presence in the community."

"While she is retiring from the board, her leadership and commitment has left an undeniable mark on MSCF," Sadecki said.