

ACT Board 2020 Annual Report

Annandale Area Community Team (ACT)

There were four ACT Board Meetings in 2020: January 9, May 27, July 9, and October 1, all held at 6:30 p.m. The January meeting was at City Hall and the others were online Zoom meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Officers for the ACT Board remained the same as last year: Judy Grabham as Vice-Chair, Jill Bishop as Secretary, and Marlene Young as Treasurer. Kelly Hinnenkamp served as Coordinating Chair in the absence of anyone stepping up to be Chair, and Laura Hood Beckman and Renee Cardarelle alternated as meeting facilitators. Other Board members are Judy Seaberg, Sandy Holthaus, Patti VanDorp, Corry Bregendahl, Katje McIntyre, and Casey Weber, Sandy Holthaus, and Linda Kelso. Sue Thwing moved away and resigned leaving 14 ACT Board members at year end.

There are currently three active Teams: Arts, Field to Feast, and Discover Downtown (Clock Tower Park and Farmers Market). Three other Teams are currently inactive but may become active in the future: Trails, Community Center, and Skateboard Park. Two other teams have disbanded because they have served their purpose: the Beach Team was handed over to Community Education in 2020, and the 1922 School Building ReUse Project was unsuccessful and the building was demolished in 2015.

Team Leads and other roles are the following: Grants Specialist, Renee; Kelly, City of Annandale Administrator; and ACT Website, Jill. **Arts Team** lead is Emily Schwarzkopf and Concerts in the Park Coordinator (part of the Arts Team) is Casey. There were no Concerts in the Park or fund-raising events due to the pandemic. **Field to Feast Team** lead is Sandy. The dinner was rescheduled twice and finally cancelled. It would have been the 5th annual community dinner. **Discover Downtown Team** consists of Clock Tower Park and Farmers Market, co-leads are Judy G and Marlene and Corry is Market Manager. Farmers Market was the only ACT activity that took place in 2020.

Clock Tower Park has become a central site for Annandale. The 7th New Year's Eve Ball Drop in Clock Tower Park took place with few attendees but was broadcast via Zoom due to the pandemic. More flower pots were added, and three more pavers were installed including one for Sue Thwing acknowledging her years of service as Market Manager. The bronze statue of a little boy at the corner of the park is dressed up regularly, a costume for Halloween, Santa hat for Christmas, and a scarf during the cold weather. He even wore an orange safety vest during the extensive Main Street construction project.

The only ACT activity that was close to normal in 2020 was Farmers Market although even that had adaptations to accommodate the pandemic such as masks, hand-washing stations, and social distancing. The Market ran 16 weeks in 2020 ending on September 29th and was exceedingly successful. Untiedt's came in to Farmers Market for the second year which was great for the market once again.

2020 was a most unusual year because of the pandemic. ACT usually takes part in several Chamber of Commerce events, the Business Expo in April and the Chili Cook-Off in May, but all were cancelled. Most ACT events were cancelled including the Garden Tour, Holiday Home Tour, Summer Concerts in the Park, and Field to Feast.

Jill Bishop
ACT Secretary