



Our story is a good one...



ABOUT
me

Martinsdale
Harlowton



Worden
Ballantine



Ashland



How I Discovered

Re-Imagine Rural WA

- Consistent Social Media Reminders
- Why I stayed: 6-10 constant community members, all with great ideas & love for their community. All it takes is a few committed people!
- Re-Imagine Rural hosted the first few meetings. Leaving us with a foundation

signs of the island being brought back to life anyway, I had

Long term consistency
beats
short term intensity



Building Our Foundation

Re-Imagine Rural kept us motivated. As a new group it's easy to feel defeated when things are in motion as quick as you'd like.

Get Meeting info. out
Maybe new date/time

Christmas Stroll
Community Garden
Pool
Volunteer opp. Booth
Flags on Main Street
Branding Wall
Mural

WORDEN/BALENTINE REIMAGINING RURAL

integrating groups, areas, efforts - focus on individual efforts - just on new about + shared communities - Charleader

Diverse group + time in community
- sectors
- ages
- cookie exchange
- MAY add

Will keep doing it
Lots of positive comments
Decided on Main St.
Strong core
School who thinks
Admitted main street
Event at school + food truck contact supported with food + recem. about 40 overall involved (5+ yr)

Did a community survey (24 people)
- Expansion Helped
- Christmas decorations
- Committed
- Met lots of people - networked with other groups
- Farm Bureau People bringing people in
- garden club
- School
- Community club
- museum
- recognize that change is difficult
- change signs around

Decided to formalize as a group
Needs a way
Reinvited Communities
People are working together
United
Some initial misunderstandings
Beef, Pork + Barley
- ag heritage
- more connections between groups
- FFA
- School
- Kids
- PTA
- FCLLA

Community Project
Connection
- (inspired by CC)
- also education
- have largely gotten past that
- Cattlewoman groups
- Industry partners
- Billings
- street
- one vendor ran out of food - connecting over food - no restaurants here
- people connecting over food
- no restaurants here

Exciting - thinking up lots of ideas
- 30 yr resident got ball rolling
- realized didn't know people
- way to each business
- Churches - "what do you want to see?"
- uncaringly
- Applying for SOLC

going on second year
- Sister talked about what she did from Horizons
- realized didn't know people
- pool for kids
- its k people
- Trying Community Business

changing the narrative about rural
Sense of decline
Had to change the narrative
recognize growth + need to navigate to change identified ways to do that effectively
Several communities following suit

- Where we fit within our Community
- Setting Long & Short Term Goals
- Structure our meetings & establish leaders.

Year 1

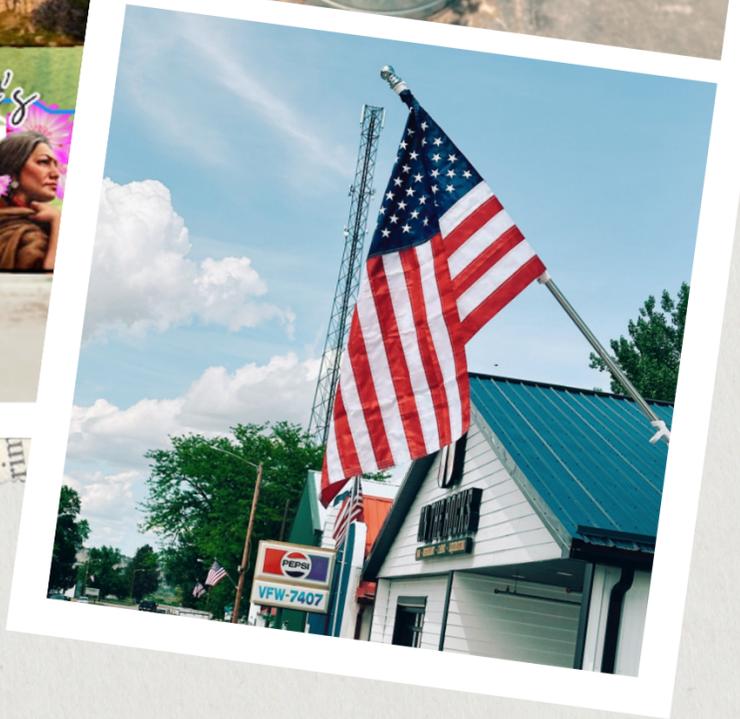


- Re-Imagine Rural MT Grant.
 - Where to focus our funds?
 - BBB Festival
 - Where's Dinner
 - Christmas Decor
 - Community Clean-Up
 - 501c3
- Be quickly visible
Form Committee's

Year 2

Beautification of Main St.

- Mural
- Beef Beets & Barley Fest
- Flower Pots
- Flags
- Park Picnic Tables
- Community Benches
- Farmer's Market
- Light Up Main



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Thank You Re-Imagine Rural!



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- Started a buzz in our community
- created relationships with other local groups.
- personally helped me plant roots in our community.
- given a place for other new comers