

2013-
2014

CORNERSTONE CORE VALUES REPORT & PROJECT REVIEWS

Fonda, IA



Wanda Krier

Fonda Hometown Pride Chairman

2013-2014

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EDUCATION and COMMUNITY INTEGRITY

We value education, which helps citizens reach their full potential and enables the community to have the power to create opportunity.

As a value, education is characterized by quality opportunities for all ages, growth, achievement, lifelong learning, partnerships that provide a broad-based educational experience for all citizens, and is a strategic asset for the community to attract people and to recruit and retain businesses in the region.

We value community integrity, which supports a shared vision and created understanding and trust.

As a value, community integrity is characterized by civic integrity, honesty, communication, shared civic leadership, responsiveness, leadership development, individual participation, community connectedness, world-class reputation and identity, and the integrity of our businesses and their leaders.

Language Classes - English & Spanish	Character Counts Programs	Diversity Awareness Programs	More Participation in Leadership Seminars
Youth Center	4H, Girl/Boy Scouts, etc	Art Center/Art Club	Fonda Garden Club
Leadership Seminars	County Wide Meetings		

Objectives for 2013:

- Initiate and help fund a Character Counts program in the school and city.
- Provide language classes to teach Spanish and English to our citizens which will increase diversity awareness/appreciation and will help our citizens reach their full potential.
- Increase the level of participation in both our county-wide leadership seminars, our locally sponsored activities such as provided by the Fonda Art Center/Town & Country Booster Organization/Fonda Museum and memberships in our youth organizations such as 4H, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts.
- Promote increased participation in the county-wide leadership programs sponsored by the Pocahontas County Economic Development Commission.
- As a community, be supportive and promote the Fonda Garden Club in their goal to provide educational programs, including professional guest speakers, to our residents.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- The Character Counts program was rejected by the Newell-Fonda School, however, the city has incorporated this program into a city wide visual plan.
- Research has been conducted to start language classes.
- Several members of the Hometown Pride Committee and community has participated in the county-wide leadership seminars.
- The Fonda Garden Club has started two educational programs.

Objectives for 2014:

- Continue to promote the Character Counts program by increased visual displays throughout the city and start a nomination campaign to tie into the Character Counts awards program.
- Provide language classes to teach Spanish and English to our citizens which will increase diversity awareness/appreciation and will help our citizens reach their full potential.
- Increase the level of participation in both our county-wide leadership seminars, our locally sponsored activities such as provided by the Fonda Art Center/Town & Country Booster Organization/Fonda Museum and memberships in our youth organizations such as 4H, Boy Scouts, and Girl Scouts.
- Promote increased participation in the county-wide leadership programs sponsored by the Pocahontas County Economic Development Commission.

- As a community, be supportive and promote the Fonda Garden Club in their goal to provide educational programs, including professional guest speakers, to our residents.
- Promote increased participation in KIB and Trees Forever conferences.

Accomplishments in 2014:

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INTERDEPENDENT, NATURAL, AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

We value our interdependent natural and built environment, which sustains us, enriches our lives, enhances the community's health and growth, and strengthens our recognition of the importance of individual stewardship of all resources.

As a value, our interdependent natural and built environment is characterized by clean air and water, healthy soil, healthy and attractive buildings and public spaces, effective planning, diverse plant and animal species, aesthetically pleasing landscapes and streetscapes, energy conservation, preservation of historical landmarks, outdoor art and renewal resources.

Art & Garden Clubs	Gazebo	Dog Park	Veterans Memorial Park
Butterfly Garden Community Garden	New playground equipment	Skateboard park/Ice Skating Rink	Camp Ground Improvements
Rock or pathway maze	Golf Course	Nuisance abatement	Derelict Buildings

Objectives for 2013:

- Create new community service organizations, such as a Garden Club, an Art Club, and Community Vegetable Garden Group. These organizations will provide aesthetically pleasing landscapes and streetscapes and improve the overall appearance of our community.
- Focus on the community's park system by making improvements to the parks that we already have such as acquiring new playground equipment, creating additional camp sites with shower facilities and by creating additional outdoor spaces such as a Veteran's Memorial Park, a dog park, and/or a skateboard park.
- Support and promote nuisance abatement by removal of derelict buildings and clean-up of unsightly properties.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- The Fonda Garden Club was formed and works closely with the Hometown Pride Committee.
- A Community Vegetable Garden has been established by the Fonda Garden Club.
- New playground equipment was acquired for the Straight Park Campground.
- A handicap dock was purchased for the lake at Straight Park.
- Four camp sites were added to the campground with six more planned.
- A camper cabin was added to the campground with two more planned.
- A boulder was donated to serve as a southern gateway and entrance to Straight Park sign.
- Many grants have been written to help fund these projects along with several fundraisers.
- Removed 3 houses, 6 abandoned cars, and 20 prosperity clean-up.

Objectives for 2014:

- Create an Art Club.
- Continue focusing on improving our current community's park systems.
- Find funding for a bath house for the campground.
- Improve the trail system and connect our park systems.
- Add an ice skating rink and/or a sand volleyball court to the north park area.

- Add a butterfly garden.
- Encourage representation from the Fonda Golf Course to attend HPC meetings.
- Support and promote nuisance abatement by removal of derelict buildings and clean-up of unsightly properties.
- Enhance our Memorial and Veteran’s Day Activities.
- Support and plan for the 50 anniversary of Vietnam.
- Research interest in building a dog park.

Accomplishments in 2014:

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SENSE OF COMMUNITY

We value our sense of community, which stabilizes the community and promotes belonging based on shared values, vision and cohesiveness.

As a value, our sense of community is characterized by an environment where the family unit can thrive, appreciation of diversity, religious freedom, public well-being, a safe community, caring neighborhoods, community spirit, and connected technological communication with the global village.

Electronic Sign	Paint a home day	Litter pick-up day	Welcome Committee
Labor Day Celebration	City Web Page/Facebook	Cinco DeMayo Celebration	National Night Out
Swimming Pool Improvements	Wall Murals & Barn Quilts	Hometown Pride Sign Signs for Organizations	Welcome to Fonda Sign, State Championships
Call to Service Initiative	Gateway Signage		

Objectives for 2013:

- Develop a new City of Fonda web page.
- Work toward
- Participate in a Community Visioning Program.
- Initiate new programs to improve the appearance of our community.
 - Paint Fonda Beautiful – a program whereas an application would be submitted to Keep Iowa Beautiful qualify to receive paint for community enhancement projects. This could be a residential home or any other structure that would benefit.
 - “Pick It Up!” – develop activities where we partner with various service clubs to organize a “litter pick-up-day”, ask individuals to “adopt a block” whereas they keep that block free of litter and debris, work with businesses encouraging them to provide trash receptacles.
- Become more welcoming to new residents.
 - Develop a Welcoming Committee by asking for volunteers to serve as committee members.
 - Form a new committee that would organize festivals, events & activities that enlighten our residents about the traditions and cultures of other countries.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- A City of Fonda web page is under development.
- We completed the ILR Community Visioning Program.
- We have applied for and received a Paint Iowa Beautiful grants. The Water treatment plant was painted in 2013.
- A Hometown Pride Mural was done by the Newell-Fonda Art Students.

- The northern gateway sign was re-stained and the letters were painted. All of the sports signs were removed and will be placed on the swimming pool fence.
- Started a fundraising campaign to add improvement to the Community Pool.
- A Cinco DeMayo celebration was held and was well received. This will be an annual event.
- Supported National Night Out which is the first Tuesday in August.
- We had a great response with our “Call to Service Initiative” with many volunteers coming outside our city.
- We initiated a fundraiser to add features to the swimming pool and have donation collection jars throughout the community.

Objectives for 2014:

- Complete the City of Fonda web page.
- Continued support of the Cinco DeMayo celebration.
- Become more welcoming to new residents.
 - Develop a Welcoming Committee by asking for volunteers to serve as committee members.
 - Form a new committee that would organize festivals, events & activities that enlighten our residents about the traditions and cultures of other countries.
- Work toward adding a gateway sign on South Main Street, the corner of N28 and Hwy 7, and by Linda Mercer’s House.
- Promote the Fonda Community Pool’s efforts to raise money for new features.
- Apply for a Paint Iowa Beautiful grants to paint a garage on Main Street.
- Apply for a Build with Bags grant for additions to Central Park.
- Continued support for National Night Out to promote public safety and community visioning.

Accomplishments in 2014:

- Progress has been made on the City’s website.
- HPC contributed \$200 toward the Cinco DeMayo celebration, which was held Sunday May 4, 2014. Dancing horses, a blow up slide, bouncy house, and piñatas were added to the attractions at no cost to the public attending the event. This event reached double the number of people it did last year. Celinia Gonzales heads this event and has added a small committee to help her each year.
- The Greg Stauter family donated a bolder to serve as our South Main Street Gateway sign. It has been engraved with our new town logo. Landscaping plans are being worked on and other additions include three flag poles, lighting and memorial engraved stone will boarder the plantings.
- The community pool added a basketball hoop. There is also an ongoing campaign to raise fund for new features. The next goal is to buy a slide.
- We were awarded our 2nd grant from Paint Iowa Beautiful to paint a homeowner’s garage on Main Street.
- Apply for a Build with Bags but was not funded because they had so many applicants and wanted to help those who have never received funding from them before.
- A dedications ceremony will be added to the National Night Out event.

LONG-TERM PERSPECTIVE AND COMMITMENT

We value long-term perspective and commitment, which support efficiencies locally and responsiveness to the changing world environment.

As a value, long-term perspective and commitment are characterized by working cooperatively and collaboratively toward community and regional goals, sharing precious resources (both human and capital), and long-term investment in the community.

Revolving Loan Fund	Fonda Foundation Fund	Infrastructure Needs	County Wide Goals
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Objectives for 2013:

- Encourage the elected officials of the City to apply to USDA for funds to initiate a revolving loan fund through the municipal electric utility.
- Explain the purpose and the vision of the Fonda Hometown Pride Committee to the community at large by hosting a public meeting open to all residents in both town and country.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- Several meetings were held to inform the community about the beautification plans for Fonda through the ILR Visioning process including a dinner.
- A dedication ceremony was held at our annual National Night Out Event and results from the ILR Visioning process were displayed.

Objectives for 2014:

- Encourage the elected officials of the City to apply to USDA for funds to initiate a revolving loan fund through the municipal electric utility.
- Encourage the elected officials to move forward with the reconstruction of South Main Street and 1st Street – the farm to market area.
- Encourage the elected officials to apply for funding to improve the water quality for its residents.

Accomplishments in 2014:

- The City has approved the farm to market road project and should be completed this summer.

HERITAGE

We value our Fonda heritage, which provides us with the lifestyle we enjoy and which we will enhance and pass on to our children.

As a value, our cultural, commercial, agricultural, and industrial heritage is distinguished by a rich history that needs to be preserved and by a shared hope that our children and our neighbors' children will be able to pursue and achieve their dreams in our community made better by what we and others have done.

Fonda Museum (future)	Labor Day Celebration	Fonda School Building	150 Year Sesquicentennial
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Objectives for 2013:

- Assist in the organization of a Sesquicentennial Committee to plan a celebration in 2020.
- Offer assistance/direction to the owners of the Fonda Museum in their efforts to preserve the vision they have created for future generations.
- Support the Fonda Town and County Booster organization in making sure the Fonda Labor Day Celebration continues through improved communication with them and the other civic groups in the community.

- Fonda Community School Building – can the building be evaluated to determine if it is feasible to repurpose the building in cost effective, sustainable solution.

Accomplishments in 2013:

- The Fonda Community School Building Committee has continued to pursue feasibility of repurposing the building. No solution has been found.

Objectives for 2014:

- Assist in the organization of a Sesquicentennial Committee to plan a celebration in 2020.
- Offer assistance/direction to the owners of the Fonda Museum in their efforts to preserve the vision they have created for future generations.
- Support the Fonda Town and County Booster organization in making sure the Fonda Labor Day Celebration continues through improved communication with them and the other civic groups in the community.
- Fonda Community School Building – can the building be evaluated to determine if it is feasible to repurpose the building in cost effective, sustainable solution.

Accomplishments in 2014:

- The Fonda Community School Building Committee conducted a survey to determine if there was any interest in the community to financial support saving the structure, which revealed that there was no interest. The Newell-Fonda School board plans to demolish the building.