

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Swenson Leaves PRIDE**

(Portland) – Portland Revitalization Inc. Portland PRIDE announced, on Wednesday, that Liz Swenson has stepped down as Executive Director of the organization to pursue another opportunity.

Board president, Bob McDougall, praised Swenson's contributions to the organization "Liz has been a valuable contributor since the formative years of the program." Swenson has served as the Executive Director since Portland Revitalization Inc. became a Connecticut Main Street Program of the National Trust for Historic Preservation four years ago. "During her tenure the program received both State and National honors. In 2003 Liz became the first Executive Director in the State to become a certified Main Street Manager." McDougall stated. Swenson was instrumental in bringing many events to town, including Shakespeare on the Green, and the recent Art of the Forest Exhibit at the Buck-Foreman Community Center. On behalf of the Board McDougall stated "We will miss her energy and creativity and wish her well in her future endeavors with thanks for all she has done for Portland."

The Board will be meeting soon to assure that the program continues to move forward. "Change is inevitable, and in small organizations it is even more important to adapt and move forward in a timely fashion." according to McDougall.

Portland Revitalization Inc. is working to revitalize downtown Portland through a comprehensive four point program to restore, Civic, Social, Physical and Economic value to downtown. The organization is an IRS 501(c)3 non-profit corporation run by a volunteer Board of Directors comprised of local business and community leaders, and paid staff, in partnership with the Town of Portland and the Connecticut Main Street Center.