

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – October 2021**

### **Proposed Long-term Economic Development Projects**

1. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
2. Kinderhook Creek LWRP

### **Promotion**

1. Continued restocking display of Historic Kinderhook Village Walking & Bicycling Tour.
2. Continued posting news and events about Kinderhook events and businesses on Nextdoor Kinderhook, Facebook, IMBY.com, Instagram, and regional Facebook Community Boards.

### **Historic Kinderhook GeoTourist App - Supported by a Grant from the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area**

1. Letter of Agreement signed with historian Kate Johnson and approved by Village Board of Trustees.
2. Shared photos of Kinderhook sites taken by R. Piwonka with GeoTourist photographer Siobhan Connally.
3. Received and reviewed new draft outline from K. Johnson for site inclusion for app.

### **Community/Business Outreach**

1. Continued discussions and support about village issues with The Kinderhook Knitting Mill.
2. Consulted and provided guidance to Kinderhook Bottle Shop concerning promotions, village communications, marketing, community support letters. Provided suggested email list of village residents and local and state organizations and government representatives to contact for support letters.
3. Provided sample draft language for support letters.
4. Composed official support letter for Kinderhook Bottle Shop as Economic Development Director.
5. Kept business owners apprised of special board meetings.
6. Followed up on P. Bujanow's request for a building-permit application to B & D Electric for installation of village light post on The Kinderhook Knitting Mill property on Hudson Street. Provided a printed application for building permit for completion by electrician.
7. Corresponded with R. Fitzsimmons about easement and donation document for light post installation.
8. Provided information to new businesses re: Webinar series on E-Commerce for small businesses.
9. Forwarded First Responders' grant opportunity from Fireman's Sub for distribution to fire company.
10. Requested and received 2019 Columbia County Tourism statistics to share with incoming businesses.
11. Coordinated with Village Recreation Commission and KBPA for cooperative planning for Kinderhook Halloween Festivities. Arranged for sound system.

12. Created Halloween scavenger hunt for kids. Worked with L. Cottingham on graphics and coordinated with Gert Doriot for donated prizes. 101 prizes were given out.
13. Created promotion poster for print and social media with assistance from L. Cottingham for Halloween Festivities. Distributed posters and posted on social media.
14. Contacted local owners of accommodations to request photos for Hudson Valley Magazine and submitted to HVM.
15. Provided historic photo of bandstand to HPC, Jackie Bujanow for file.
16. Drafted letter on behalf of Mayor Leiser to Daria Merwin requesting information about New York State Museum study at Persons of Color Cemetery.

### **Traffic Issues and Complete Streets Related to Economic Development**

1. Continued data collection on projected numbers of employees for new businesses to create a report to village board outlining upcoming pressures on parking availability in village.

### **COVID-19 Community Outreach**

1. Continued daily postings and on-going email blasts from village and on Nextdoor Kinderhook and Facebook concerning Columbia County Department of Health COVID-19 updates.
2. Kept up to date on information in the media concerning COVID-19 issues and distributed as warranted via email blasts and social media.

### **Albany-Hudson Electric Trail and Village Bike Racks**

1. Provided pricing and sample of 9-bicycle bike rack to Village Clerk so that KBPA donation could be cashed.

### **Mills Park**

1. No activity this month.

### **Sister City Project – Buren in the Netherlands**

1. No activity this month.

### **Grants**

1. Continued ongoing monitoring of notifications of NYS grant availability to make recommendations to village board.
2. Completed daily reviews of online Philanthropy News Digest to monitor RFP announcements for private foundation grants.
3. Met with Kinderhook Memorial Library Board of Trustees to present a proposal for the library to partner with Village of Kinderhook to serve as a future fiscal sponsor for grants and private foundation funding for select village projects. Awaiting library response.

### **Tax Deductibility of Donations for Public Projects in Village**

1. No activity.

**Kinderhook Creek and LWRP**

1. Obtained sample RFP for LWRP from Germantown and followed up with representative of Germantown LWRP committee for additional information.
2. Began drafting RFP for LWRP. First draft complete. Awaiting LWRP completed documents search by village office to proceed to review of draft with D. Weir and N. Heeder. Next step: review of RFP by R. Fitzsimmons.
3. Liaisoned with Ted Kolankowski of Barton & Loguidice re: Hudson River Valley Greenway grant for planning for kayak launches.

**Van Buren Hall**

1. Next steps: Proposing a stand-alone project for air-conditioning project.
2. Solicited but not yet received feasibility and cost estimate for replacement of lift with elevator.

**25 Chatham Street – Vacant Lot**

1. Next steps on hold: (1) Contacting DEC to determine if there is any additional paperwork in their files post-demolition status. (2) Summarizing information for report to Board of Trustees.