

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – APRIL 2021

Proposed Long-term Economic Development Projects

1. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
2. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan LWRP – Awarded
3. Kayak launch planning, design, construction – Hudson River Valley Greenway – Grant Awarded
4. Traffic Issues and Complete Streets as Related to Economic Development

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, and Instagram.
3. Planning for Social-Media Promotional Effort Beginning Summer 2021

Historic Kinderhook Walking & Bicycling Tour

1. Contract finalized with Berkshire Brochure to distribute brochure in months of July and August in Albany, Columbia County, and the Berkshires
2. Self-standing post with brochure display at Rothermel and Valatie Trailhead parking lots installation completed.

Historic Kinderhook Walking & Bicycling Tour Digital app.

1. Awarded \$2,000 grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway National Heritage Area.
2. Confirmed with R. Piwonka and A. Birckmayer that GeoTourist app is the preferred platform.
3. A sample test narration completed with A. Birckmayer and narrator Wendy Speilmann.
4. Sample photos of sites located in Village Square photographed by Siobhan Connally and reviewed by Piwonka, Shur, and Birckmayer.
5. R. Piwonka completed sample scripts for locations around Village Square.
6. R. Shur began editing of sample scripts.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued discussions and support about village issues with Hat Factory LLC.
2. Engaged in on-going discussions with two potential business owners.
3. Distributed information on grants to old and new business owners.
4. Provided contact information for Martha Lane, business development director at CEDC, to a potential business owner.
5. Provided tip sheet to potential business owner concerning “what to bring” to HPC for signage request and copy of village sign regulations concerning sizing.
6. Submitted letter of support to Planning Board for Old Dutch Inn/Three Sisters Tavern special-use permit.
7. Visited Cosmic Donuts to get feedback on business concerns in Kinderhook.
8. Liaisoned with Hat Factory LLC to propose installation of village-owned light post on their property.

9. Posted on social media grant opportunities for local artists.
10. Researched and provided information concerning types of businesses for potential vacant retail space in Kinderhook.
11. Distributed by email information about NYS availability of funding for electric-charging stations to local businesses, such as Samascott's Garden Market and The School.
12. Contacted State Senator Jordan's office and then provided future business operator contact information for constituent support services.
13. Distributed information re: Restaurant Revitalization Fund webinar to food-service businesses.
14. Creating a sample official Village of Kinderhook Facebook page reassigned to R. Shur.

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.
3. Assisted in distribution of Columbia County Board of Supervisors' press releases re: COVID-19 when needed.

Albany-Hudson Electric Trail

1. Passed on to CCHS the information that their sites might qualify for inclusion on Empire State Trail website. CCHS followed up with request for inclusion to Andy Beers.

Mills Park

1. Continued planning with trustee Weir in consultation with Mills Park volunteers for unified outdoor furniture at Mills Park.
2. Secured cost summary/budget for furniture (2 ADA-compliant picnic tables + 2 benches).
3. Met with D. Weir, S. Gray, and Karen Van Buren to discuss new benches and K. Van Buren's donated bench.
4. Informed M. Browne that if new furniture is purchased that two benches may be moved to locations along the bike trail.
5. With D. Weir, determined that approximately 50% of payment for new furniture will come out of economic development budget.

Sister City Project – Buren in the Netherlands

1. Communicated with Mark Hoffman in Buren about Buren's new mayor in preparation for composing an introductory letter from Kinderhook.

Grant Availability

1. Continued ongoing monitoring of notifications of NYS grant availability to make recommendations to village board.
2. Distributed relevant grant notifications to village board, local non-profits, and Climate

Smart Task Force for their consideration.

Tax Deductibility of Donations for Public Projects in Village

1. Requested information from R. Fitzsimmons and village accountant concerning recurring tax-deductibility letter for ongoing electrical costs of village light post on private property with a potential easement agreement. Awaiting reply.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. All aspects of project now completed.

Kinderhook Creek - Hudson River Valley Greenway Water Trail Grant + Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan NYS Department of State Grant

1. LWRP grant awarded.
2. Hudson River Valley Greenway Water Trail Grant - Official award announcement received – December 2020 for matching grant of \$10,000 for planning, design, and construction of 2 kayak launches – one in Valatie and one Kinderhook. Total project cost: \$20,000.
3. Passed on to Village Board information about new grant availability – Hudson River Valley Estuary – Department of Environmental Conservation.
4. Continued informal consultation with Ted Kolankowski and Bob Murphy of Barton & Loguidice about new grant opportunity.
5. Met with D. Leiser and D. Weir to discuss creek projects.
6. Solicited and received sample accessible kayak-launch tear sheets and pricing.

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.

Traffic & Economic Development

1. Researched and drafted information/discussion packet re: traffic, parking, speeding, Complete Streets and distributed to Mike Abrams and Brian Murphy for comment.
2. Meeting scheduled with M. Abrams and B. Murphy for May 14, 2021.
3. Contacted and communicated with representative of DOT concerning grant funding for Complete Streets planning (Jill Henck and Sandra Jobson).

Miscellaneous

1. Approached by D. Weir to research and identify grant availability for inclusive playground equipment. Currently researching for possible grants.

2. Made a recommendation to HPC that a folder be available in Village Hall with printed copy of list of properties in Historic Preservation District, copies of HPC applications for Certificates of Appropriateness, and other useful information that individuals and contractors may be seeking.
3. Drafted and distributed a Light Post Installation Proposal at 8 Hudson Street.
4. Met with D. Waterston, Sheriff Electrical Services, Rob Meehan, Ben Espinoza (electrician for 8 Hudson Street) concerning light post installation proposal at 8 Hudson Street.
5. Followed up with Sheriff Electrical Services about pricing for light post installation. Awaiting price quote.