

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – AUGUST 2020

Planned and Proposed Long-term Economic Development Projects

1. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
2. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan
3. Kayak launch planning, design, construction – Hudson Valley Greenway award grant – announcement and awarding uncertain due to COVID-19.

Promotion

1. Continued restocking display of Native Son brochures and 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. Posted information on social media about Kinderhook food and drink establishments.

Historic Kinderhook Walking and Bicycling Tour Brochure

1. Project completed.
2. Arranged for graphic designer to supply graphics for village website homepage, Instagram and Facebook.
3. Arranged with Berkshire Brochure, distributor of the brochure, for them to store overage of brochures until 2021 spring for new distribution.
4. Began draft of grant reimbursement application from Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued liaison with Cosmic Donut to explore promotion of Kinderhook food services and gave them a Village welcome packet.
2. Reconnected with new barbershop. Bones Barbershop to open at 10 Broad Street in November. Began announcing the upcoming opening on social media.
3. Solicited feedback from local realtors re: information transparency about Historic District and showings and sales.
4. Requested that Kim Voltz of Anderson Agency contacted Columbia-Greene Board of Realtors re: adding a check-off box for historic districts on MLS form.
5. Drafted for HPC an explanatory and request letter to Columbia-Greene Board of Realtors re: check-off box. Approved, signed, and sent by HPC chairperson Ken Neilson.
6. Researched information re: pop-up shops in preparation to recommend that village consider process for allowing pop-ups.
7. Liaisoned with The School concerning the gallery's upcoming projects and sent a letter of support to Village Board and Code Enforcement Officer.
8. Drafted email blast encouraging community to complete 2020 Census.
9. Requested old photos of Carolina House exterior in village files for distribution to parties potentially interested in the property.

10. Began consultations and brainstorming with businesses concerning planning for Candlelight Night 2020 vis-a-vis NYS COVID-19 regulations for gatherings.
11. Shared update on bike trail via social media and Nextdoor Kinderhook.
12. Requested revised and updated Mills Park project map for inclusion on village website.

COVID-19 Community Outreach

1. Distributed information on SBA and Columbia County–sponsored small-business emergency loans and grants to Kinderhook businesses via email blasts, direct emails, and social media.
2. Commenced daily postings and on-going email blasts from village and on Nextdoor Kinderhook and Facebook concerning Columbia County Department of Health COVID-19 updates.
3. Kept up to date on information in the media concerning COVID-19 issues and distributed as warranted via email blasts and social media.
4. Continued outreach on social media about wearing of masks, with assistance of photographer Siobhan Connally.
5. Spoke with Columbia County Department of Health when community members had questions about COVID-19 regulations, communication, and rumors.

Mills Park

1. Kept apprised of volunteer group's efforts to purchase 10,000 bulbs for Mills Park.

Sister City Project – Buren in the Netherlands

1. Expanding connections between the two communities put on hold.
2. Continued postings on Kinderhook-Buren Facebook page to share Kinderhook news with Buren and encourage Dutch tourism to Kinderhook.
 2. Contacted Jan de Boer concerning translation of his book.
 3. Started planning for finding volunteers to create 1-minute videos to be uploaded on Kinderhook-Buren Facebook page to share with Buren life during COVID in Kinderhook. Contacted library about this project. To be contacted: Ichabod Crane School District to see if middle- and upper-school students might like to volunteer to create videos to receive community-service credits.

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. Completed research on tax-deductibility of donations for public projects
2. Tax accountant confirmed tax deductibility vis-à-vis municipalities
3. Followed up with additional questions to accountant and Nicole Heeder re: acknowledgment letters and other documentation.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Installation completed July 8, 2020.

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

1. Matching grant received (grant announcement postponed from December 11 to March 2020) from Hudson River Valley Greenway for \$10,000 for planning , design, and construction of two kayak launches – one in Valatie and one in Kinderhook. Total project cost: \$20,000.
2. Awaiting official announcement of Greenway Water Trail Grant. Put on hold by New York State due to COVID-19.

Van Buren Hall

1. Awaiting cost estimate for air-conditioning system from Main Care.
2. Next steps: Identifying sources for funding renovation.

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.

Miscellaneous

1. Attended CDRPC Local Government “Open Streets in the Capital Region” webinar.
2. Began exploration with village resident and carpenter Stanley Gresens for a design of an enclosure for electrical service at municipal parking lot.