

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – DECEMBER 2020

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 Valley Greenway award grant – announcement and awarding on hold due to COVID-19.
4. Traffic Issues 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.

Historic Kinderhook Walking and Bicycling Tour Brochure

1. Grant reimbursement received from Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

Historic Kinderhook Walking and Bicycling Tour GeoTourist app.

1. Awarded \$2,000 grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway National Heritage Area.
2. Commenced planning for production of GeoTourist app with Ann Birckmayer and Ruth Piwonka.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued communication with The School concerning Nick Cave installation and other economic development issues concerning The School.
2. Finalized December Nights planning with KBPA and village.
3. Created and posted social media posts re: December Nights throughout the month.
4. Composed press release for December Nights and submitted to The Columbia Paper and posted on WAMC, Chronogram, and Rural Intelligence event calendars.
5. Composed 2020 – A Year of Giving acknowledgment document.
6. Organized lists of door-decorating participants and notified winners.
7. Worked with graphic designer on production of door-decorating map.
8. Distributed door-decorating map via social media.
9. Liasoned with Feisty Brown re: paid Facebook advertising for December Nights.
10. Liaisoned with Hat Factory LLC. – new owners of Carol Knaus’s property to provide information about NationalGrid’s Main Street Revitalization Program and grants.
11. Contacted NationalGrid via email and phone conversation to assist the Hat Factory LLC in determining whether or not The Aviary project might qualify for the NationalGrid Main Street Revitalization Program. The Aviary pursued discussions with NationalGrid.
12. Discussion ongoing about establishment of an official village Facebook page.
13. Composed press release about Bones Barbershop and submitted to The Columbia Paper.

14. Distributed via email notification letter to Columbia County realtors re: availability of list of properties located in Historic Preservation District.

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. Assisted in distribution of Columbia County Board of Supervisors’ press releases re: COVID-19.

Mills Park

1. Continued ongoing discussions with Mark Browne about wayfinding signage at Mills Park.
2. Contacted Andy Beers re: question about signage advertising businesses on bike trail.

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.

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. Tax-deductibility letter to Stanley Gresens for enclosure at parking lot finalized and sent.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Installation completed July 8, 2020. (Still to be completed: hook up of dimmer switch.)

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. 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. Met with Mayor Leiser, Brian Murphy, Mike Abrams for preliminary discussions about exploring issues related to traffic, economic development, and “complete streets” concept.
2. Following research and preparation of information packet, the group plans to meet for further discussions.