

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – JANUARY 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 Valley Greenway award grant – Awarded
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 & Bicycling Tour Brochure

1. Grant reimbursement received from Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.
2. Contacted Berkshire Brochure to get information about 2021 brochure distribution and fees.

Historic Kinderhook Walking & Bicycling Tour GeoTourist app.

1. Awarded \$2,000 grant from Hudson River Valley Greenway National Heritage Area.
2. Researched production details (length, time, content expansion, script writing) and prepared an outline of production goals to be distributed to Ann Birckmayer and Ruth Piwonka.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Revised 2020 – A Year of Giving acknowledgment document with corrections and submitted for village website and Spring bulletin.
2. Requested and submitted on behalf of Feisty Brown reimbursement for Facebook advertising for December Nights.
3. Handed off to trustee Mark Brown N. Heeder's and D. Leiser's questions concerning establishment of an official village Facebook page.
4. Continued discussions and support about village issues with Hat Factory LLC.
5. Contacted multiple parties interested in opening businesses in Kinderhook to inform them of sale listing of 5 Chatham Street.
6. Referred three potential business owners to Hat Factory LLC and briefed them and one other potential business owner on village issues and opportunities.
7. Referred one potential business owner looking to lease space to owners of three buildings on Broad Street: Scotty's building, Dutch Inn, and corner building at Chatham St. and Albany Ave.
8. Distributed information on possible grants and qualifying to potential new business owners.
9. Distributed call for nominations of Kinderhook businesses for Chronogammies awards to KBPA and posted on social media.

10. Liaisoned with Christopher Knable who is planning to reopen Carolina House.
11. Distributed data results on paid Facebook December Nights advertising to village trustees.
12. Liaisoned with The School on issues related to “Truth Be Told.”
13. Composed and submitted a letter of support to Planning Board for Spumoni Gardens.
14. Initial contact with Chronogram magazine re: Cosmic Donuts spurred additional editorial coverage included in print and online editions of Chronogram.
15. Helped track payment to Chronogram magazine for December Nights.
16. Revised and updated content in consultation with C. Vandenberg the “Welcome to the Village of Kinderhook” packet that’s distributed to new property owners – business and residential. Now includes letter from HPC for those properties located in Historic Preservation District.
17. Requested and received photo from Bones Barbershop to be used with promotional postings on social media: IMBY.com, Facebook, Instagram.

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.
5. Communicated with Adrienne Berger of Columbia County Department of Health to receive clarifications for community outreach about vaccination sign up.

Albany-Hudson Electric Trail

1. Shared with trustees Weir and Browne information about June 3, 2021, World Bicycle Celebration to explore if Kinderhook might plan an event.
2. Explored with Sigrid Gray what native plantings might be of interest as screening/enhancement along the bike trail.

Mills Park

1. In consultation with Mark Browne finalized content for wayfinding signage at Mills Park.
2. Communicated and worked with M. Browne and IMK Signs & Designs on finalizing new design for wayfinding signage and received and distributed updated renderings.
3. Passed on to IMK Signs & Designs village questions about materials.

Sister City Project – Buren in the Netherlands

1. Continued postings on Kinderhook-Buren Facebook page to share Kinderhook news with Buren and encourage Dutch tourism to Kinderhook.

2. Composed congratulatory letter and script to congratulate Mayor Jan de Boer on his new appointment as mayor of Den Helder and submitted to Gregg Berninger to produce a video with Mayor Leiser to be sent for inclusion at a recognition ceremony in Buren.
3. Contacted Freek Lankhof and arranged for a Dutch translation of letter to Jan de Boer.

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

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Installation completed July 8, 2020. (Still to be completed: hook up of dimmer switch.)
2. Followed up with Dale Leiser on scheduling completion of project with hook up of dimmer switch.

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.

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. Research and preparation of information packet ongoing. Once completed, the group plans to meet for further discussions.
3. Consulted informally with Ted Kolankowski of Barton & Loguidice to get information on resources about complete streets.