

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – MARCH 2020

Planned and Proposed Upcoming Economic Development Projects

1. Municipal parking lot lighting project – To be completed Spring 2020
2. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
3. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan
4. Kayak launch planning, design, construction – Hudson Valley Greenway award grant to be announced March 2020

Promotion

1. Continued restocking display of Native Son brochures at bandstand, Martin Van Buren statue, tourist information stand at Samascott's Garden Market, and Martin Van Buren National Historic Site.
2. Continued posting news and events about Kinderhook events and businesses on Nextdoor Kinderhook, Facebook, IMBY.com, and Instagram.
3. Solicited information from Kinderhook food services about take-out services.
4. Posted information on social media about Kinderhook food and drink services.

Event Planning and Promotion

1. Planning for a possible Kinderhook restaurant/pub crawl put on hold.
2. Food Truck Village in June to be cancelled. Planning for Food Truck Village in August put on hold.

Historic Kinderhook Walking and Bicycling Tour Brochure

1. Grant Awarded for brochure redesign and rebranding: June 12, 2019
Total Project: \$2,750 Grant Award: \$1,375
2. Sent out for second bid on brochure printing to Shear Color Printing. Received bid from Shear Printing. First bid was received from Curtis Printing. Printing to be awarded to Shear Color Printing.
2. Printing postponed until June 2020. To be printed in 2020 fiscal year.
3. Distribution with Berkshire Brochure for distribution of 5,000 brochures in Capital Region and Berkshire County zones to be determined.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued liaison and social-media promotional efforts.
2. Continued discussions with Code Enforcement officer Peter Bujanow on the issue of vacant buildings in business district.
3. Distributed information on SBA small-business emergency loans and grants to Kinderhook businesses via email blasts, direct emails, and social media.
4. Interviewed representatives of Valatie Rescue Squad to solicit information to distribute about squad's preparations for readiness during COVID-19 emergency. Wrote and distributed information via village email blast and social media. Submitted to The Columbia Paper.
5. Updated and revised Welcome packet for businesses and individuals with assistance of C. Vandenburg.

6. Contacted Kinderhook fire department to do interview about their special preparations during COVID-19 emergency.
7. Contacted potential new owners of The Red Fox about their plans for Albany Avenue restaurant and offered assistance and recommendations about village procedures. Sent Welcome packet with village information, as well as tips about applying to HPC for signage.
8. Distributed Chronogram solicitation for Kinderhook food and drink establishments to participate in Chronogram's special promotional database.
9. Distributed Columbia County Dept. of Health guidelines on cleaning and disinfecting to village food and drink providers.

Sister City Project – Buren in the Netherlands

1. Continued follow up with Buren on expanding connections between the two communities.
2. Continued postings on Kinderhook-Buren Facebook page to share Kinderhook news with Buren and encourage Dutch tourism to Kinderhook.
 3. Liaisoned with Kinderhook Memorial Library teen librarian to discuss possible teen-exchange projects with Buren.

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.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Awaiting finalization of easement from Peter Cecchini for light fixture on Post Office property.
2. Bid for electrical work by Scheriff Electrical Services accepted by Board of Trustees.
3. Letters of acceptance sent to Scheriff. Letters of rejection sent to Leggett and Jennings.
4. Checked on status of lighting fixture order with Wolberg Electric. Delay confirmed.

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.

Van Buren Hall

1. Sent out request for fee estimates to prepare overall cost estimates for renovation project. Cost estimates to be used for upcoming grant applications.
2. Received a fee estimate from Danda Inc. - \$3,032.
3. Sent out request to James Romanchuk & Sons for a fee estimate.

4. Solicited additional names of qualified estimators from building inspector Peter Bujanow. Received additional names.
5. Kept Van Buren Hall committee informed about estimates progress.
6. Contacted village attorney Rob Fitzsimmons concerning issue of setting up a "Friends of" group to be an entity to receive donated funds for Van Buren Hall project.

25 Chatham Street – Vacant Lot

1. Contacted property owner to get information about post-demolition status and whether property owner could supply DEC paperwork.
2. Next steps: (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. Commenced research on concept of village considering the development of a Complete Streets plan and met with Mayor Dunham to introduce the idea.
2. Collaborated with Matthew Kierstead (who is working with NYS on bike-trail trail-panel signage) on Kinderhook map of historic sites from walking and bicycling tour and sourcing historic photos for Albany Hudson Electric Trail signage in Kinderhook.