

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2020

Planned and Proposed Long-term Economic Development Projects

1. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
2. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan LWRP – On hold.
3. Kayak launch planning, design, construction – Hudson Valley Greenway award grant – announcement and awarding on hold 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.
 4. Composed press release in coordination with owners of Cosmic Donuts for their grand opening. Submitted to The Columbia Paper. To be published: October 15, 2020. Following publication, to be distributed via social media.
 5. Contacted diverse group of village residents to participate in a photo to be taken on the bike trail by Siobhan Connally for inclusion at top of village website's homepage.

Historic Kinderhook Walking and Bicycling Tour Brochure

1. Project completed, with PDF on village website.
2. To be completed: grant reimbursement application for Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Columbia-Greene Board of Realtors voted to add a check-off box for historic districts on MLS form following Village of Kinderhook request.
2. Awaiting final welcome letter from HPC for inclusion in village "Welcome" packet for new businesses located in Historic Preservation District.
3. Spoke with City of Hudson Code Enforcement Officer re: pop-up shops and Hudson's procedures.
4. Composed and distributed to village officers a summary of City of Hudson approach to pop-ups.
5. Requested that village board begin a discussion on pop-ups.
6. Continued communication with The School concerning the gallery's proposed project.
7. Continued consultations and brainstorming with businesses and KBPA concerning planning for Halloween and Candlelight Night 2020 vis-a-vis NYS COVID-19 regulations for gatherings.
8. Requested that "Getting Your Business Ready for Visitors Using the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail" be included in "Welcome" packet to new businesses.
9. Revised and updated the "Discover the Opportunities" document.
10. Distributed "Discover the Opportunities" and "Getting Your Business Ready for Visitors Using the Albany-Hudson Electric Trail" to local realtor representing a property for sale

in Kinderhook following a conversation about opportunities for that property vis-à-vis Kinderhook's future needs for accommodations.

11. Made contact and welcomed new owners of Unique Nutrition.
12. Made multiple attempts to contact new lessee of Carolina House.
13. Shared with Andy Beers community questions about handicap accessibility of bike trail. Posted information from A. Beers on social media about accessibility.

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. 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 successful efforts to purchase 10,000 bulbs for Mills Park.
2. Consulted with Mills Park volunteers and designer re: historic-style lights in Mills Park.
3. Met with Wendy O'Hearn of Vertex Solutions to discuss siting of light posts.
4. Solicited and received pricing for purchase of matching light post to those at municipal parking lot. Future project: installation of light post that was not installed in parking lot plus one new light post at Mills Park – for a total of two (2) lights.
5. Liaison with trustee Dorene Weir requesting information from National Grid re: installation of electrical service at Mills Park for lighting.
6. Continued consultation with Jim Dunham on wayfinding signs at Mills Park.
7. Secured agreement from Velo Domestique to pay for wayfinding sign indicating Bike Repair .09 Miles.

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.
 3. Contacted Ichabod Crane School District to explore providing community-service opportunity to create videos of local life to share with Buren.
 4. Ichabod Crane School District responded positively and is offering the above opportunity.

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. As per tax accountant's recommendation, contacted Rob Fitzsimmons to request draft charitable-donation acknowledgment letter.
4. Received documents from R. Fitzsimmons and sample acknowledgment.
5. Drafted charitable-donation acknowledgment letter and submitted to R. Fitzsimmons, which was approved.
6. Consulted with N. Heeder about acknowledgment letter.

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.
3. Passed on to Mayor Leiser request for update on LWRP from Robert Murphy of Barton & Logudice.

Van Buren Hall

1. Solicited and received cost estimate on air-conditioning equipment and installation from Main Care.
2. Next steps: Proposing a stand-alone project for air-conditioning project.
3. Consulted with architect Gregory Merryweather on feasibility of air-conditioning stand-alone project.

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. Continued consultation with village resident and carpenter Stanley Gresens on design of enclosure for electrical service at municipal parking lot.
2. Drafted economic-development section of Fall 2020 bulletin.
3. Met with architect Gregory Merryweather to discuss whether he would be interested in drawing "existing conditions" for bandstand, if needed.