

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – DECEMBER 2019

Planned and Proposed Upcoming Economic Development Projects

1. Municipal parking lot lighting project
2. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
3. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan
4. Kayak launch planning, design, construction

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. Followed up with payments for talent hired for Candlelight Night both with village and KBPA.

Event Planning and Promotion

1. Early planning stages of a possible Kinderhook restaurant/pub crawl.
2. Working with TV Culture (Volter Braamhorst) of the Netherlands on identifying and coordinating a local partnership and securing an exhibition space for a traveling exhibition on Martin Van Buren.

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. Final design complete.
3. Final revisions underway.
4. Projected printing date: January 2020.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued liaison and social-media promotional efforts with new businesses, including Saisonier, Unique Nutrition, and Swell Party.
2. Drafted a press release about Unique Nutrition to be submitted to The Columbia Paper, Register-Star, and IMBY.com.
3. Continued Instagram posts of menu items for The Flammerie.
4. Attended Planning and Zoning Board, as well as Historic Preservation Commission, meetings.
5. Initiated discussions with village board and Code Enforcement officer Peter Bujanow on the issue of vacant buildings in business district.
6. Initiated discussion with Code Enforcement officer Peter Bujanow about ADA compliance issues.
7. Continued liaison with PCJ Development concerning planning and zoning board meetings.
8. Assisted in revision/update of business directory on village website.

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. Buren is also working in partnership with TV Culture on Martin Van Buren traveling exhibition.

Grant Availability

1. Continued ongoing monitoring of notifications of NYS grant availability to make recommendations to village board.
2. Distributed relevant grant notifications to local non-profits and Climate Smart Task Force for their consideration.
3. Recommended Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation Grant for future Kinderhook Creek Heritage Water Trail signage. (Due: March 2020)
4. Notified that grant application for an America Walks Community Change grant for \$1,000 for two benches was not successful.
5. Compiled a file for Kinderhook bandstand project consisting of photo, bandstand history narrative by Ruth Piwonka, short Kinderhook history, and engineering report. File to be distributed as needed for identifying grants and funds.
6. Drafted a list of possible directions/projects to be considered for Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan and shared with J. Dunham and D. Argyle.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Awaiting finalized easement from property owner Cecchini for 3 Hudson Street in order to order fixtures.
2. Followed up with postmaster on easement at 3 Hudson Street.
3. Composed a second, follow-up inquiry letter about easement to Peter Cecchini.
4. Solicited information from Wendy O’Hearn of Vertex re: light-level impact if easement is not obtained for post office light post location. Wendy O’Hearn supplied new light-level diagram minus one pole light.

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. Met with Jim Dunham to discuss details of LWRP grant.
3. Announcement received of receipt of LWRP grant in the amount of \$75,000 for Kinderhook and Valatie.

Mills Park

Van Buren Hall

1. Organized and attended planning/visioning meeting with committee, grant writer Mary Ellen Hearn, and Fred Schroeder of Schroeder Arts. Discussed the following: project scope, vision/mission statement, strategies for preparing for applications for grants and funding from government agencies and private foundations, and received direction about identifying and establishing relationships/cooperation with other cultural organizations/stakeholders in the area concerning future programming in Van Buren Hall.
2. Architect Gregory Merryweather submitted more developed plans and drawings for use in soliciting project estimates.
3. Committee to meet with G. Merryweather in January for detailed discussions of scope of work, plans, drawings, and model as well as next steps for receiving project estimates.
4. Contacted and met with Russet Trio for tour of Van Buren Hall for possible performances and/or contra dance nights and shared information about fees and conditions for use of hall.

25 Chatham Street – Vacant Lot

1. Initiated research on status of 25 Chatham Street.
2. Initiated FOIL request from NYS Department of State for documentation.
3. Received documents from FOIL request and began discussions with Code Enforcement officer to eventually prepare a status report for Village Board.
4. Reviewed existing village file on 25 Chatham Street.