

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – JANUARY 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.

Event Planning and Promotion

1. Planning for a possible Kinderhook restaurant/pub crawl progressing.
2. Continued to work 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. Liaisoned with Kinderhook Memorial Library, The School, and CCHS. Library agreed to a local partnership and providing exhibition space. Exhibition postponed until a possible 2021 date due to budgetary challenges.
3. Began initial planning for Food Truck Village 2020.
4. Communicated with Berkshire Brochure distribution about distribution of Walking & Bicycling Tour brochure.

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 revisions underway.
3. Projected printing date: February 2020.

Community/Business Outreach

1. Continued liaison and social-media promotional efforts with new businesses, including Saisonnier and Unique Nutrition.
2. Composed press release for Unique Nutrition. Published by *The Columbia Paper*.
3. Composed press release for Saisonnier. Submitted to *Chronogram*. To be published in March.
4. Attended Planning and Zoning Board, as well as Historic Preservation Commission, meetings.
5. Continued discussions with Code Enforcement officer Peter Bujanow on the issue of vacant buildings in business district.
6. Pursuing recruitment of possible retail business for Van Buren Properties building.
7. Helped publicize Saisonnier x Bartlett House on social media, including IMBY.com, Nextdoor, Facebook, Instagram.

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 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)

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Composed third letter to Peter Cecchini of 3 Hudson Street and awaiting his reply to request for easement.
2. Finalized details for lighting order with Wendy O’Hearn of Vertex Solutions and made contact with Debra Sickles, Sales/Energy Consultant of Wolberg Electric.
3. Met with Dave Booth and Rob Meehan to discuss installation and scheduling of parking lot lights.

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 in March.

Mills Park

1. Liaisoned with Mills Park crew to distribute invitation via village email and social media to local gardeners to participate in planning for planting on Earth Day 2020.

Van Buren Hall

1. Committee met January 7 to review Gregory Merryweather plans and to assign Merryweather with task of finalizing scope of work. Next steps: Scope of work and plans to be sent to contractor for rough estimate of project cost for the purpose of applying for CFA NYS grant funds for project in Spring 2020.
2. Contacted instructor of chair yoga to suggest new class in Van Buren Hall. Met with instructor to show the space and explain process of applying for use.

25 Chatham Street – Vacant Lot

1. In consultation with code enforcement officer, Peter Bujanow, reviewed FOIL documents as well as all documents on file in village on 25 Chatham Street. First-stage summary of information on status of property was begun.
2. Contacted property owner to obtain information about (a) whether property is on the market and (b) sales price.
3. Next steps: (a) re-contacting property owner for additional information concerning post-demolition property status, (b) meeting with DEC officials, (c) summarizing in a report for Village Board status of property.