

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT – JULY 2020

Planned and Proposed Long-term Economic Development Projects

1. Van Buren Hall Renovation and Grant Funding
2. Kinderhook Creek Local Waterfront Revitalization Plan
3. Kayak launch planning, design, construction – Hudson Valley Greenway award grant – announcement and awarding uncertain due to COVID-19.

Promotion

1. Continued restocking display of Native Son brochures.
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 services.

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. Brochure printed and delivered. (Second, revised printing required.)
3. Berkshire Brochure began distribution in Capital Region, Berkshires, and Columbia County.
4. Brochures sent to Clermont State Park.
5. Displayed at Village of Kinderhook Tourist Information rack at Samascott's Garden Market.
6. Attempted contact with Martin Van Buren National Historic Site for display.
7. Worked with C. Vandenburg on ordering display holders for brochure for Mills Park, bandstand, possibly outdoor display at Lindenwald, as well as table display.
8. Arranged for and delivered brochures for display at Velo Domestique bike shop in Valatie.

Community/Business Outreach

1. On-going social-media posts about Kinderhook businesses.
2. Wrote draft of revised and reformatted Planning Board application. Submitted to planning board for discussion and review.
3. Made contact with Cosmic Donut to welcome the business to Kinderhook and offer social-media outreach.
4. Wrote draft of welcome letters for informing new property owners and tenants of properties in Historic Preservation District and draft of suggestions to improve communications (with realtors and potential property owners and tenants) re: which properties are located in Historic Preservation District and jurisdiction of HPC (in consultation with C. Vandenburg).
5. Submitted Historic Preservation District drafts of suggestions (see no. 4) to HPC, Peter Bujanow, Jim Dunham, Dale Leiser, and Village Board.

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. Continued outreach on social media about wearing of masks, with assistance of photographer Siobhan Connally.
5. Spoke with Columbia County Department of Health when community members had questions about COVID-19 regulations, communication, and rumors.

Mills Park

1. Consulted with Jim Dunham on wayfinding (sign tree) sign for Mills Park to direct bike-trail users to village center and submitted category suggestions.
2. Drafted and completed an update on Mills Park and Mills Meadow in consultation with Sigrid Gray and Jim Dunham.
3. Update posted on social media, distributed via village email blast, and submitted as a press release to The Columbia Paper.
4. Requested updated map graphic of planting plan for website and to accompany press release.

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.

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. Commenced research on tax-deductibility of donations for public projects.
2. Submitted documentation re: tax deductibility to N. Heeder for sharing with village accountant.
3. Tax accountant confirmed tax deductibility.

Municipal Parking Lot Lighting Project

1. Installation: July 8, 2020.
2. Remaining work to be completed: hook up of dimmer to fixtures.

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. Danda renovation cost estimate (excluding air-conditioning system) received.
2. Contacted Main Care for written AC cost estimate.
3. Liaisoned with Greg Merryweather and Main Care rep. re: information needed for AC cost estimate.

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