

DRAFT
Economic Development Committee
Wednesday, September 7, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kristina Dousharm [KD] (Chair), Amanda Bodian [AB], Dan Budd [DB], Chris Klose [CK] (Secretary), Ken Migliorelli [KM], Marty Reilingh [MR], Emily Sachar [ES], members; Karen Smythe [KS] (Mayor, Village of Red Hook), Melkorka Kjarval [MK] (Village of Red Hook Trustee); George Jahn [GJ]

Call to Order: With a quorum present, Chair Dousharm called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

Minutes: Minutes of past meetings to be distributed anew for action at the next meeting.

Old Business:

Updates – KD: KS – sewer continuing; wastewater plant going on line shortly; tanks going in, too; applying for a New York Forward grant focusing on sidewalks, crosswalks, lamp posts, including widening sidewalks and creating a better sense of safety and village identity to slow traffic; Hardscrabble Day focusing on local music/musicians centered on the Village parking lot, Red Hook Responds to serve food for Neighbors' Night on Friday, 09-16; no Hardscrabble Day parade, replaced by Halloween Parade on October 29, featuring human-powered floats;

KD – sidewalks and crosswalks (including at the Post Office) follow up: KS – writing the grant now, focusing on walkability and, if we get the grant, it would include NYS/DOT review; MK – complex situation because of numerous driveways, irregularly lined up; Rt. 199 to be reviewed for potential tree planting, sidewalk widening; KS – would be helpful to have a village committee involved in the review process;

DB – Wife and daughter teaching at RHCS; Taste Budd's appreciates night security checks by the Police Department; shout out to Hardscrabble Committee for good publicity; also to John Hardeman for his Music Barn events; DC Fair business breakfast is an excellent meeting venue; business is good and staffing is steady for the fall/winter season, including Bard students; T Budd's to be renovated, including durable commercial flooring;

ES – Bard intern had a late start, could only work one month; awaiting her report on Red Hook businesses; Bard pays hourly rate to interns; KD – great if we had another intern and link up with the Chamber of Commerce and Town of Red Hook e-lists;

KD – will follow up community block development grants with Jacob Testa [JT] and the Red Hook in the Hudson Valley website; MK – Town communications committee considering it but not much interest; KD – will check with JT on the domain status;

MR – high-end properties predominate; quarterly reports shortly; prices holding steady but buyers demanding more concessions;

KD – Reclaimed Motel nearing completion and hopes to open by October;
KM – why the name!? KD – because they re-used almost all materials, hence the moniker; Greek restaurant not opened; DB – septic system limited, so waiting for the new sewer so they can have more seats available;

Next Meeting: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, September 14, 2022, via Zoom.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary