

Economic Development Committee
8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 26, 2011
Meeting Minutes

Present: Todd Baright, Dan Budd, Laura Pensiero, Ben Shute, Chris Klose, members; Micki Strawinski, Town Board liaison; and volunteers: Brent Kovalchik, Village of Red Hook, Deputy Mayor; Juliet Harrison, Red Hook CAN (Community Arts Network); Ed Pruitt, President, Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce.

Not Present: Beth Jones

Call to Order: Chris Klose, interim chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

Minutes: Minutes of 05-12-11 and 05-26-11 are to be reviewed and approved at the 06-09-11 meeting.

Old Business:

1. Dan Budd pledged \$100 toward production of a video introduction to Red Hook proposed by Ed Blundell;
2. Members and volunteers are to send their thumbnail profiles to Chris Klose for the planned Professional Expertise Roster;
3. Small group is to report at the 06-09-11 meeting its progress toward identifying the top ten kinds of businesses to attract to Red Hook;
4. A "Red Hook Successes" inventory of thriving businesses to help market Red Hook in print and online needs to be started, and
5. Networking with key town and county economic development organizations is ongoing.

New Business:

1. Brent Kovalchik described the economic redevelopment of his hometown of Medina, Ohio, offering its "Mainstreet Medina" as a potential model for Red Hook to organize its own approach to both maintaining current businesses and attracting new ones. A "Welcome Wagon for Business" concept was discussed to streamline the process for businesses interested in Red Hook, especially a "one stop" approach to all of the steps needed to establish a business in Red Hook, including zoning, available spaces, financing, etc. A small working group agreed to modify Medina's Business Questionnaire/Survey for potential adoption by the EDC, the Red Hook Chamber, the Village, and other business groups, as the first step toward a streamlined, consistent, transparent "one stop" body of information about business in Red Hook.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 9, 2011 at the Village Hall

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