

Economic Development Committee
8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Thursday, May 10, 2012
Meeting Minutes

Present: Todd Baright, Dan Budd, Chris Klose, Ken Migliorelli, Harry Colgan (*ex officio*), members; Rich Biezynski, Red Hook Ag & Open Spaces Committee; Ed Blundell (Mayor of Red Hook), Brent Kovalchik (Deputy Mayor of Red Hook), Kim Gomez (Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce), Juliet Harrison (Red Hook CAN), volunteers; Johanna Bard, attendee

Not Present:, Amanda Bodian, Beth Jones, Laura Pensiero, George Verrilli, members; Ed Blundell (Mayor of Red Hook); Norman Greig, Ag & Open Spaces Committee; Micki Strawinski, volunteer.

Call to Order: Chris Klose, chair, called the meeting to order when a quorum was present at 9:04 a.m.

Minutes: On a motion by Mr. Baright and a second by Mr. Migliorelli, the committee unanimously approved the Minutes of Thursday, May 10, 2012.

Old Business:

1. IGA – Mr. Baright reported that a close survey of the existing building shows it to be in such poor condition that, at the current asking price, potential costs of renovation and slim margins of the supermarket business, investment in a Red Hook Farmers Market concept is prohibitive at this time. Instead, the Committee discussed a broader concept of a Red Hook Farmers Hotel on the site, to include a 20 to 30-room hotel, meeting space and restaurant. It was felt such a development could better help Bard College meet its need for rooms during peak periods as well as additional meeting/conference space. The Committee agreed that for any concept it would be necessary to write a business plan, including a market analysis. Mr. Budd agreed to contact a former business professor of his at the Culinary Institute of America for advice. Likewise Mr. Biezynski said he would contact a hotel expert of his acquaintance, and Mr. Kovalchik agreed to provide a list of the current zoning parameters for the IGA site to help guide development of the concept.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 24, 2012** at the Red Hook Village Hall.

Adjournment: On a motion by Mr. Baright and a second by Mr. Budd, the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary