

APPROVED
Economic Development Committee
Wednesday, June 17, 2020

Present: Kristina Dousharm (Chair), Chris Klose (Secretary), Amanda Bodian, Dan Budd, Maarty Reilingh, Jacob Testa (*ex officio*), Vanessa Shafer, members; Ed Blundell (Mayor of Red Hook), Robert McKeon (Red Hook Town Supervisor), Kim McGrath (Executive Director, Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce)

Call to Order: With a quorum present, Chair Dousharm called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

Minutes: On a motion by Dr. Reilingh and second by Ms. Bodian, the Minutes of the Meeting of June 10, 2020 were unanimously approved.

Old Business:

- **Discussion** – KD: Covid Phase Three opens next week (6/23) and Phase Two is open in the village; school budget approved (3,500 ballots in); Covid changing “public” norms in re: gatherings, especially; Williams outlet on East Market tenancy is being resolved and is to reopen by the end of the month;

Mural: Ed is coordinating a community discussion of the controversy that has arisen around the “Dutch woman” portrait; Myra Armstead, Jody Miller (Cty), Ed, few others to meet re: the portrait and the controversy; Armstead sees no negative content; not public art because it is a private building (Baright); the actual portrait is of the artist’s mother, who is of Basque origin; public art is a sensitive issue in the time of racism recognition; dialogue is good but this is not public art; DC Human Rights Commission, Historic Red Hook, Village, Town, others involved in producing the necessary community dialogue about racism in the country; petition authored by Maggie Reilingh, two others; Village proposing meeting (actually or virtually) to review and discuss the mural, how people are perceiving it (especially people of color); Ed’s proposal to organize an inclusive community discussion is an excellent way to begin/include all parties concerned;

Dan: RHResponds update, including their \$500 grants to Dutchess Community Action Partnership and Red Hook Harvest; working with them on emergency food relief through Nourish New York; continuing to keep our volunteer corps engaged; keeping the message going that people remain in need; food exchange very successful/need a supervisor to handle the logistics (Bard, Sky High Farm and Great Song Farm partnering); want all the available food to get to people’s mouths – grown, cooked, prepared and delivered by local volunteers; number of reserved

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meals down 10-20 percent in demand; Taste Budd's business up and that's good; people complying with social distancing outside and inside; Key Bank, Taste Budd's, Wildflower Café seating very popular; unlike Rhinebeck, Red Hook has narrower streets, so doesn't have the sidewalk space to accommodate outdoor seating; perhaps an EDC letter to the owner of the Tobacco Factory in re: opening Tobacco Lane, a private street, to outdoor restaurant seating;

STR? Nothing to update.

Kim: Chamber, Village and Key Bank collaborating to open Key Bank greenspace to seating, including Kevin Mowry to develop signage for the space, including guidelines: no alcohol, social distance and no mess;

Next Meeting: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 24, 2020 via RingCentral.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary