

DRAFT
Economic Development Committee
8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 11, 2017
Meeting Minutes

Present: Dick Wambach (Chair), Todd Baright, Amanda Bodian, Kristina Dousharm, Chris Klose (Secretary), Erin Moore, Kevin Mowry, Marty Reilingh, George Verrilli, members; Brent Kovalchik (Deputy Mayor of Red Hook)

Not Present: Dan Budd, Harry Colgan (*ex officio*), Jessica Stingo, members; Ed Blundell (Mayor of Red Hook), Kim McGrath (Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce)

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

Minutes: On a motion by Mr. Reilingh and second by Mr. Baright, the committee unanimously approved the Minutes of the meeting of November 30, 2016.

Old Business:

- **Membership** – Mr. Wambach welcomed new members Kristina Dousharm, Erin Moore and Kevin Mowry to the Committee.
- **Subcommittees** – Mr. Wambach recommended that the Committee establish subcommittees to take on specific assignments, with prioritized tasks, deadlines and responsibilities, to enable the Committee to better advise and make recommendations to the Town Board on items pertinent to the EDC’s mission. Reviewing 2016, he commended the committee for raising awareness of the EDC within the Red Hook business community and, especially, for working with the Village of Red Hook to promote the benefits of the proposed sewer system.
- **Sewer System Update** – Mr. Kovalchik reported that the Village has qualified for \$4.9 million in financing from the US Department of Agriculture for the new system, including a \$1.2 million grant and a 38-year, low-interest loan. He thanked Mr. Baright and Mr. Klose for assisting the Village with a letter to Sen. Serino summarizing the benefits of the sewer and asking for her support. The Village is continuing to analyze the technical complexities of the system to arrive at the lowest, most reasonable benefit unit cost. Mr. Klose is to prepare the first EDC “Hi-Notes” of the year to update the community about the USDA grant and reiterate how important the new system is to protect Red Hook’s clean drinking water, help expand village business and generate jobs.

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Incoming Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce president (and new EDC member) Mowry agreed that the Chamber and the EDC should co-host a general informational meeting about the system on Wednesday, February 1.

Next Meetings: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 25, at the Red Hook Village Hall, second floor.

Adjournment: Chairman Wambach adjourned the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary