

Economic Development Committee
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kristina Dousharm [KD] (Chair), Amanda Bodian [AB], Dan Budd [DB], Chris Klose [CK] (Secretary), Amanda Bodian [AB], Ken Migliorelli [KM], Maarty Reilingh [MR], Emily Sachar [ES], Jacob Testa (*ex officio*, Town of Red Hook Board liaison to the EDC), members; Melkorka Kjarval (Red Hook Village Trustee), Kim McGrath [KMcG] (Executive Director, Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce), Victor Feldman [VF] (*Red Hook Daily Catch*)

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

Minutes: On a motion by Dr. Reilingh and second by Ms. Bodian the Committee unanimously approved the Minutes of 01-12-2022

Old Business:

Updates – AB: Pine Plains’s Stissing House is re-opening in March, as is the Pine Plains Platter under the new sobriquet “Rosie’s,” a new gift shop, etc., all of which is an object lesson for Red Hook: how does this happen? MR: how to develop the same cachet without becoming the next Woodstock; J&J remains available; DB: hard time to start a restaurant because of all the barriers; KM: open all week at the stand, with weekends the best; city markets doing well, too; Hanna Sushi doing well; MR: prices still at record levels in the villages and town; we need to look at the affordability issue, especially for workers;

Small Business Block Grants – (computer failure; discussion notes lost) recap: \$300K to \$5 million available; work with municipalities (non-profits, too, can apply on their own); funds must be spent within 12 months; grants are non-competitive; first hurdle is to meet 51% low-to-moderate income worker support, especially affordable housing;

KD: Where do we start with a survey? DB: alert businesses but tell them they must share their payroll info in order to qualify; ES: keep it brief, work through Survey Monkey; June 30 = grant application deadline;

ES to draft possible grant outreach email to Red Hook businesses about the Block Grant Program and inviting them to a viral “learn all about it” meeting; DB: need to alert the Town and Villages to the EDC survey;

Next Meeting: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, January 26, 2022, via Zoom.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary