

**Economic Development Committee**  
**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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

**Call to Order:** With a quorum present, Chair Dousharm called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

**Minutes:** The sets of Minutes for 02-17-21 through 03-03-21 are to be reviewed and voted upon at the March 10, 2021 meeting.

**Old Business:**

**Announcements:**

**Historic Red Hook** – Elisabeth Tatum re: Meet Your Neighbor invitation for 7:00 p.m., March 17 Zoom gathering; cooperate with EDC/business community via the EDC email list; okay.

**Village of Red Hook** – EB re: Sewer bids opened – \$4.9 million estimated cost – for a total \$7.9 million; have checked out the numbers, began reaching out to all concerned re: how to fund; environmental and economic consequences can't be ignored; specs stand "as is," so project can't be downsized; upshot: drives up capital costs by \$20/month/benefit unit; Village Board to meet to greenlight new bond resolution to complete funding; not good news but working with Rep. Delgado's office to work out additional support; ask EDC to help find best way to communicate to the properties; can't stop now while we get the legal steps taken care of; (KD: construction costs have doubled, so it's not realistic for the Village to be held to six-year old projections.); need more data before communicating to the 135 benefit users; ES: any way of sharing costs with the Town? KM: could the Town community preservation fund be tapped? ultimately, the CPB fund law would have to be modified, approved by the State; EB: will ask the Town; Village goal is least-cost funding.

**Short Term Rentals (STR)** – General Discussion: consider two surveys: one of residents, one of the business community; should coordinate with the Town to avoid double-surveying but the business data should be gathered; Intermunicipal Task Force (ITF) represents the two municipalities (RH and Tivoli villages)/has worked to varying degrees as a meeting place to consider Town/municipality points-of-view; ITF purview is to look at zoning issues, especially, so would be good to have whatever data (anecdotal and numbers)

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possible; the more data, the better the Town Board can review/decide; the Town Board is the one body that will move forward on the issue.

**Consensus:** Continue discussing the issues with the ITF; move ahead preparing the business survey (via email, direct mail and personal contact).

### **Additional Items:**

Bard's "put" on Ulster County spaces for classrooms/performances; EDC could reach out to Bard about available spaces in Red Hook/Dutchess County, maybe be convinced to focus here.

ITF membership – if EDC does recommend someone, it is critical to forward a person who is ready, willing and able to attend ITF meetings; suggestions welcomed.

**Next Meeting: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 10, 2021.**

**Adjournment:** Chair Dousharm adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary