

**APPROVED**  
**Economic Development Committee**  
**Wednesday, April 8, 2020**

**Present:** Kristina Dousharm, Amanda Bodian, Dan Budd, Jacob Testa, Chris Klose (Secretary), Ken Migliorelli, Marty Reilingh, Vanessa Shafer, George Verrilli, members; Ed Blundell (Mayor of Red Hook); Kim McGrath (Red Hook Area Chamber of Commerce),

**Call to Order:** With a quorum present, Chair Dousharm called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

**Minutes:** On a motion by Dr. Reilingh and second by Ms. Bodian, the Minutes of the Meeting of April 1, 2020 were unanimously approved.

**Old Business:**

- **Coronavirus Update** – Chair Dousharm: longterm bounceback on hold; Ed: fairly quiet in the Village except for temporary closure of Williams; restaurants closed; eminent domain for the sewer = two holdouts left, working on the project continues; first virtual meeting on Monday, with a public hearing on the budget necessary (dry run for the Board tonight); how to restructure over next six months = very different;

Golden Wok and CanCun: language barrier preventing their take-out business? Undocumented receiving essentially no help (extremely concerned); Ed: Golden Wok prepared to terminate for the duration (business decision) of the pandemic; CanCun = part of a Massachusetts family business chain (sophisticated) and in it for the longterm;

Any other businesses in the town part of outreach to inform of small business loans/grants/etc? RH Responds not dealing with those issues but agree it's good to inform re: difficulty of loan applications; Payroll Protection Plan = the big one comes online Friday; working through the local banks (have to have all pertinent docs, including corporate bylaws, financials ready); PPP = managed by local banks so personal connections with the managers really key because they are the liaison with the SBA (but many probably falling through the cracks, especially those without payroll records) = very difficult to stay in touch with businesses without personal contact because online makes it difficult to maintain constant flow of loan apps, for example; contractors and tradespeople = out of the loop);

RH Responds: almost 300 vols; 3 lines open (groceries/neighborly chats); open 9-5; trying to fill the gap on team leaders/help with filling the demand; hotline operators, especially; first food order in yesterday (with Migliorelli):

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shift-leader meeting tonight to get people ready to respond; meals will open on Friday with 100 meals through the weekend (free and/or pay what you can); could have this service up indefinitely if the partial pay plan works; need vols: Sunday meals prepped Sat night, delivery begins 1 pm Sundays (at the Elks Club) for pickup by the drivers; breakfast and lunch being served from the RHCS, doing 100 breakfasts daily (requests coming through the RHR hotline; with breakfast and lunch from the school, dinners from RHResponds (fabulous coordination by RHR as umbrella);

RHR Outreach = more than 1,000 calls to people to alert them to the services available in the area (Dan Rubin, Dawn Jardine leading the calls)

Biggest need? Schedule coverage; so EDC enroll, look at needs, volunteer to take open spots; need a lot of volunteers to cover each other when they cannot work; also, donate to the RHR or the Ascienzo Family Foundation; Enroll and donate = critical; inform your neighbors/friends of RHR services, especially our meals (100 for Friday – Sunday, then and up to 200; (from Migliorelli, CJ Pizza, Dell's); Community Center distributing 50+ meals from the County daily.

Dan: showing volunteer portal at RHR: home screen = has all activities covered; sign up by "MY Profile", scroll to the bottom; pick available, make it yours then publish in "My Job."

Jacob Testa: first TB meeting via Zoom last week as a test, including public; upcoming meetings will be open Zoom meetings but need to clarify the technical aspects so all information available; agenda? Business as usual, set the weeks of the meeting; coronavirus updates will be an agenda item for the duration;

Chair Dousharm: meeting schedule and items to tackle? Outreach as a group to the businesses to alert them to the services? Concentrate on those businesses that are staying in there and help by driving customers to them; Ed: doing as much as we can by circulating info, but can't use public money to bolster businesses – keep EDC meetings because they are a focal point;

Continue weekly meetings for the time being, running through the issues that come to the table; good to keep in touch (apart, together!); longterm bounce-back activities = contact me to talk through the ideas, involvement.

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**Next Meeting:** 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, April 16, 2020 via RingCentral.

**Adjournment:** Chair Dousharm adjourned the meeting at 9:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary