

Economic Development Committee
Wednesday, May 4, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Present: Kristina Dousharm [KD] (Chair), Amanda Bodian [AB], Dan Budd [DB], Chris Klose [CK] (Secretary), Ken Migliorelli [KM], Marty Reilingh [MR], Emily Sachar [ES], Vanessa Shafer [VS], members; Jacob Testa [JT] (Town Board liaison to the EDC); Karen Smythe [KS] (Mayor, Village of Red Hook), Melkorka Kjarval [MK] (Trustee, Village of Red Hook); George Jahn [GJ], Todd Baright [TB], Nate Adler [NA] (Gertie's Deli proposal); Victor Feldman [VF] (Red Hook Daily Catch)

Call to Order: With a quorum present, Chair Dousharm called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Minutes: On a motion by Ms. Bodian and second by Dr. Reilingh, the Minutes of 04-27-2022 were approved unanimously.

Old Business:

Updates – KD: Red Hook in the Hudson Valley website – to be discussed with Village of Red Hook Mayor Smythe, with Dick Wambach and CK; job description for EDC summer intern as per ES job description; discussion of business e-addresses updating for continued outreach by the EDC;

Gertie's Deli – Nate Adler (Rachel Adler = Bard graduate) proposing to open a deli in the former J&J's; 10 years experience in the restaurant business in NYC (tapas bar for 8 years and, now, in Brooklyn Gertie's for the last three years); survived the pandemic and created the restaurant as a non-profit organization; now live in Blue Stores and connected with TB about the space and working with him; Gertie (grandmother Gertrude), a "jew-ish" diner and deli, including making their breads and bagels; will have an upstate vibe, including awesome coffee, breakfast sandwiches from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. (take out dinners, too); positive ethos and cultural experience for all in the community, especially local employees; very important to be "there" for the Red Hook and regional community;

KD – EDC represents a cross section of Red Hook occupations, businesses, government officials and residents from the town and villages; advisory to the Town Board of Red Hook; here to help current and future businesses; NA – thanks for your outreach and will be glad to work with you on upcoming issues; ES – one EDC goal = help businesses feel welcome; DB – welcome to NA, appreciate your description; similar business/21 years history in Red Hook; EDC is a Town committee and all are welcome to our weekly meetings and to serve the community by volunteering; Red Hook is family oriented; retailing has been difficult during the pandemic; we need to cooperate; new sewer is a boon to the community; NA – would like to open by winter;

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TB – visited Gertie’s in Brooklyn and were very impressed/great service and food; discussing lease and now getting into the details, including customizing the space; community is very important to us and we’re excited; as per Music Fridays, from June through September (Joe Tobin to arrange) marketed through new Facebook page; also, flower-scaper hired to display on the three corners; two spaces (Kimlin Energy and I, too, Evolve) opening up soon;

KD – Will check with the Town on NYS grant, report at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: 8:30 a.m., Wednesday, May 11, 2022, via Zoom.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Respectfully submitted: Christopher Klose, Secretary