



## Clayton Local Development Corporation Annual Report 2014

---

### ***CLDC Mission Statement:***

*The mission of the CLDC is to relieve and reduce unemployment; to promote and provide for additional and maximum employment; to better and maintain job opportunities; to carry on research for the purpose of aiding the communities of the Town and Village of Clayton by attracting business opportunities to said communities or encouraging the development of new, or retention of existing, business opportunities in the communities; lessening the burdens of government; and to act in the public interest, including promoting reuse of brownfield sites within the Town and Village of Clayton.*

# CLDC Board Members 2014

---

## **Officers**

Michael Geiss, Chairman

Vice-Chairman

Roland Baril, Chairman of the Clayton Joint Planning Board, Ex-Officio Member

Treasurer

Justin Taylor, Supervisor of the Town of Clayton, Ex-Officio Member

Secretary

Dr. Jon Slattery, retired Superintendent of Schools for Thousand Islands Central School District, Community Member

Assistant Secretary

Christopher Bogenschutz, President of the Clayton Chamber of Commerce, Ex-Officio Member

## **Ex-Officio Members**

Larry Aubertine, Vice-Chairman of Clayton Joint Planning Board, Ex-Officio Member

Norma Zimmer, Village of Clayton Mayor

Michael Docteur, Jefferson County Legislature, District #1

Joseph Menard, Superintendent of Schools, Thousand Islands School District

## **Community Members**

John Kehoe, retired Air Force Colonel

Cary Brick, Chairman Clayton Heritage Alliance; Retired Chief of Staff, US House of Representatives (NY 23)

Kathy LaClair, Town of Clayton Clerk

Walt Christensen, local business owner

Rebecca Hopfinger, Director of Advancement, Antique Boat Museum

Lori Durand, local business owner

## 2014 Highlights & Project Updates

---

### **Frink Property**

Redevelopment of the Frink property has been a priority for the CLDC since the organization was created in 2003. In 2014 over ten years of hard work come to fruition with the grand opening of the 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel. The Clayton LDC and Town of Clayton worked for over a decade to take the abandoned, contaminated factory site to the development of a \$25 million destination hotel. The new 105 room hotel has created almost 100 new jobs in the community. The hotel has a 275 person capacity ball room, restaurant and lounge. It has also created a new reason to visit and stay in Clayton.



## **Riverwalk Extension Project (Phase 2B)**

The Clayton LDC continued to work with the Village of Clayton towards the creation of the next phase of the Riverwalk. This phase will be from Frink Park to the Veteran's monument. The project has experienced delays, but is expected to move forward in Spring 2015.

## **Riverwalk 3**

During 2014 the Clayton LDC partnered with the Village of Clayton to submit an application to the New York State Department of Transportation, Transportation Enhancement Program to construct the third phase of the Clayton Riverwalk. The funding application was awarded in late 2014, with construction expected in 2017.

This phase of the Riverwalk will

be from the Veteran's Monument to Key Bank area. This \$1.7 million phase of the Riverwalk will create a continuous waterfront walkway along Clayton's shopping district.



## **NYS Main Street Program**

In 2014 the Clayton LDC was awarded a \$225,000 New York Main Street Downtown Anchor grant to assist the Thousand Islands Inn. The new owners of the TI Inn discovered many issues with the property, resulting in the business being shut down until further repairs were made. The NYS Main Street funding will assist the owners with renovating the first floor. This project is expected to be complete in Fall of 2015.

## **USDA RD Rural Business Enterprise Grant**

The Clayton LDC submitted an application to the USDA RD RBEG program on behalf of the Wood Boat Brewery. The LDC was awarded \$85,000 to assist the Brewery with purchasing canning and production equipment. This project is expected to be complete by July 2015.

## **Restore NY III – Former Golden Anchor property**

In 2009 the Clayton LDC partnered with the Village of Clayton to receive \$1.2 million to revitalize vacant properties in downtown Clayton. These properties were the RJ Marine building and the former Golden Anchor Property. The RJ Marine portion of the project was completed in 2012. The Golden Anchor portion of the project was delayed by the project owner. In 2014, the owner decided to move forward with the project. Foundation work was completed in 2014, with the building expected to be complete by late 2015.

# Goals for 2015

---

1. Complete the extension of the Clayton Riverwalk to the Veterans Monument by June 1, 201 (Phase 2b)
2. Collaborate with the Village of Clayton, NY DOT and National Grid to work towards underground utilities along Riverside Drive.
3. Advance the next phase of the Clayton Riverwalk (Phase 3), which will include hiring consultants, procuring easements and preliminary designs by the end of 2015.
4. Administer the NY MS Downtown Anchor grant funding to assist the TI Inn, with project completion by September 2015.
5. Administer the Restore NY III grant funding to assist with the construction of a new building on the former Golden Anchor site, with project completion in late 2015.
6. Administer the USDA RD RBEG funding program to assist the Wood Boat Brewery with purchasing equipment. This project is expected to be complete in summer 2015.
7. Participate with the committee to update the Town/Village Master Plan
8. Work with the neighboring Townships on an economic development and job creation plan.