

# Clayton Local Development Corporation Annual Report 2016

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## **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 2016

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## **Officers**

### Chairman

Michael Geiss, retired 1000 Islands Regional Director, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation

### Vice-Chairman

Dennis Weller, Chairman of the Board, Structural Associates Inc., retired President and Chief Executive Officer Structural Associates Inc.,

### Treasurer

David Storandt, Supervisor of the Town of Clayton, Ex-Officio Member

### Secretary

Dr. John 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**

Doug Rogers, Chairman of the Clayton Joint Planning Board, Ex-Officio Member

Norma Zimmer, Village of Clayton Mayor

Michael Docteur, Jefferson County Legislature, District #1

Michael Bashaw, Superintendent of Schools, Thousand Islands School District

## **Community Members**

Rebecca Hopfinger, Executive Director, Antique Boat Museum

Lori Durand, local business owner The Koffee Kove

Christine Powers, Commercial Loan Officer, Watertown Savings Bank

John Cooper, Territory Sales Manager, Reeb

## 2016 Highlights & Project Updates

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### **Riverwalk 3**

The Clayton LDC continued to partner with the Village of Clayton to administer the New York State Department of Transportation, Transportation Enhancement Program funding to construct the third phase of the Clayton Riverwalk. \$1.7 million phase of the Riverwalk will create a continuous waterfront walkway along Clayton's shopping district. In 2016 The CLDC worked with Village to move the project forward including property acquisition, project design and the bid process. The project is on schedule to begin construction in April 2017, with construction expected to be complete in the fall.

### **Craft Beverage Promotion Program**

The Clayton LDC received funding to implement the Craft Beverage Promotion Program funded by NYS Empire State Development. The CLDC partnered with the Thousand Islands International Tourism Council to implement the program. The goal of the project was to create multimedia marketing to promote the new and emerging craft beverage industry in the Thousand Islands region. The \$222,000 project included social media, print and television marketing throughout 2016.



### **Historic District Infrastructure Improvement Project**

The Clayton LDC partnered with the Village of Clayton to secure funding towards the Historic District Infrastructure Improvement Project. The scope of work for this project includes rehabilitating the streets, curbs and sidewalks, replacing water mains and sewer laterals, burying utility lines and installation of street lights. The Clayton LDC was able to secure funding for the water/waste water portions of the project through the Northern Border Regional Commission for \$250,000 and NYS DASNY for \$250,000. The CLDC was also able to secure funding towards the utility line portion of the project from NYS Empire State Development (\$1 million) and NYS Department of State (\$500,000). This project is expected to be fully designed in 2017, with construction in 2018/2019.



# Goals for 2017

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1. Collaborate with the Village of Clayton, NYDOT, National Grid and local business owners to work toward undergrounding utilities along Riverside Drive to improve safety and aesthetics and help boost tourism.
2. Advance the next phase of the Clayton Riverwalk (Phase 3), which will include the actual construction from the Veterans Memorial to the Village property adjacent to the Key Bank, scheduled for completion in fall of 2017.
3. Work with TILT, OPRHP, DOT, the Village and private owners to advance the ultimate transformation of the Sissy Danforth Trail into a multiple use Rail-Trail between Clayton and Lafargeville.
4. Reapply for a NYS Consolidated Funding Grant to rehabilitate and upgrade the infrastructure of many small lodging businesses located throughout the Town of Clayton.
5. Look for opportunities to better the community over the short term, particularly ways to reduce some of the logistical problems that will be faced during the Riverside Drive reconstruction period, scheduled for 2018.
6. Assign the Governance Committee the task of updating the CLDC Bylaws and assure the Board of Directors that the Corporation is operating in compliance with the State Public Authorities law.
7. Investigate the feasibility of Clayton attracting more cruise ships to its docks to increase business opportunities in the region.
8. Explore additional revenue generating activities.
9. Form a Strategic Planning Committee to chart a path for the future of the Clayton Local Development Corporation.