



Minutes of Meeting of April 3, 2014

Chair Mike Geiss called the Regular Meeting of the Clayton Local Development Corporation to order at 3:55 p.m. in the joint CLDC/Clayton Improvement Association Board Room on Strawberry Lane in Clayton. Also in attendance were Bud Baril, Vice Chair; Justin Taylor, Treasurer; Chris Bogenschutz, Assistant Secretary; and John Slattery, Secretary along with Board Members Larry Aubertine, Cary Brick, Walt Christensen, Mike Docteur, Lori Durand, Rebecca Hopfinger, Frank House (4:16), Kathy LaClair, and Norma Zimmer. John Kehoe was excused. Executive Director Kristi Dippel was also present.

On motion by Bud Baril, second by Kathy LaClair, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of March 6, 2014.

The Chair reserved his comments for later.

Treasurer Taylor presented three bills for approval in the amount of \$2,714.23 which, when paid, will leave a balance of \$14,101.10 in the CLDC checking account. The CLDC Northern Border Regional Commission Account is now \$74,632.60 after issuance of a check in the amount of \$34,398.96 to the Village of Clayton. We will wait for reimbursement before another check is written. Justin will be closing the CLDC Frink Account and the NYS Main Street Account. The Town's Frink Capital Checking Account shows a balance of \$79,192.80. There is \$10,105.60 in the Riverwalk II/Frink Redevelopment Savings account. Three bills were paid in the amount of \$2,724.40 leaving a balance of \$465,101.06 in the Riverwalk II/Frink Redevelopment Checking Account. On motion by Walt Christensen, second by Bud Baril, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report and payment of the bills, copies of which are attached to these minutes.

Executive Director Kristi Dippel distributed her monthly Administrative Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. On motion by Norma Zimmer, second by Larry Aubertine, the Board unanimously approved a resolution authorizing and supporting the application of the Wood Boat Brewing Company for a USDA Rural Business Enterprise Grant in the amount of \$85,000 (matching local funds \$85,000) for the purchase of brewing equipment. Volunteers from Fort Drum and the Clayton community will

assemble on May 11 to work on the replacement of the wooden playground in the center of the village.

Justin Taylor gave a progress report on the construction of the 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel, with the work remaining on schedule 125 workers were on the job yesterday. The CLDC Board will hold its next meeting on May 1 at the hotel at 4 p.m. A Grand Opening Celebration is planned for September 4, 2014.

Justin Taylor reported that the bids for the floating docks were awarded to Chippewa Marine and that the costs for the wave attenuator appear to be within the budget. Substantial completion of the Boaters Services Building is expected by June 1.

For the Governance Committee, Mike Geiss reported on the Committee's discussions regarding the future of the CLDC. At present, we must meet the same requirements as Authorities thousands of times our size (the New York State Thruway Authority for example) and the tremendous costs of compliance in money, time, effort, and stress are far greater than our modest size would warrant. Given these onerous and ponderous mandates, it is really worth remaining as a Local Development Corporation or should we consider reforming our organization as an advisory committee which would not be under the heavy hand of New York State? After spirited discussion regarding our history, potential, focus, and goals, the unanimous thinking of those Board members not on the Governance Committee was to not change our identity but to work harder on further defining our mission and strategies for achieving our goals. The perception of the CLDC by the local and regional community, indeed by officials at the state level, is decidedly positive because of all that we have accomplished. The second item raised by the Governance Committee was whether we should consider setting term limits for the members of the Board who serve by appointment rather than by the position they hold. This will be discussed further in the future. Mike Geiss announced that he was resigning as chair of the Audit Committee based on the fact that that committee had never met.

The Chair declared that the next meeting of the CLDC Board will be held May 1, 2014, in the new 1000 Islands Harbor Hotel in Clayton beginning at 4:00 p.m.

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m. on motion by Kathy LaClair, second by Larry Aubertine.

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Slattery, Secretary