



Clayton Local Development Corporation
913 Strawberry Lane, Clayton NY 13624
Phone 315-686-3212 Fax 315-686-2503
www.claytonldc.org

Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2024

Chair Jamie Ganter called the February meeting of the Clayton Local Development Corporation to order at 4:00 p.m. Also in attendance were Vice Chair Bobby Cantwell, Secretary Christine Powers, Asst. Secretary Chris Bogenschutz, Treasurer John Cooper, Mike Bashaw, Town Supervisor Tim Doney, Michael Hazlewood, Doug Rogers, Jack Stopper, Norma Zimmer, Village Mayor Nancy Hyde, and Tim LaLonde. Kristi Dippel was also in attendance along with guests Ann Major-Stevenson and Tracy Brabant.

On a motion by Chris Bogenschutz, second by Nancy Hyde, the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of January 4, 2024, with no further discussion.

Chair Jamie Ganter presented the final Goals for 2024. On a motion by Chris Powers, second by Norma Zimmer, the Board unanimously approved the goals, with no further discussion.

Chair Ganter provided an update from the Housing Study sub-committee stating that some questions previously presented to Asterhill were not fully answered so they will follow up on those. Mr. Asterhill will be available at the March meeting, via zoom, to answer any questions board members may have.

Treasurer John Cooper presented the Treasurer's Report. One bill to the CIA for ED hours for \$3,041.67 leaving a balance of \$2,958.37 in the General Account. With no activity in the Reserve Account, the balance remains at \$1,772.67. On a motion by Nancy Hyde, second by Bobby Cantwell, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's report and the payment of the bill, copy of which is attached to these minutes. A note was made that the Town annual stipend is expected within a couple of weeks.

Under the Executive Director, Kristi Dippel's report, the following were discussed:

Kristi attended a meeting with the Cape Vincent Local Development Corp to share ideas on how the communities can assist in projects that benefit the river region. She notes that they have the same concerns and challenges that Clayton does and further meetings will be held. A suggestion was made that perhaps NYS representatives may be invited to discuss tourism and how it can benefit other industries to create jobs and housing. Kristi stated she also received a call from the Alexandria Bay Town Supervisor, Brent Sweet, regarding sharing ideas and perhaps requesting the CLDC to assist them for a possible administrative fee.

Stakeholder's Meeting

The agency is not getting a response from potential speaker Jim McKenna, of the Regional Office of Sustainable Tourism. It was discussed that perhaps Assemblyman Scott Gray, as Chair of the



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State Tourism Committee, may be able to assist. Nancy Hyde mentioned that Mr. Gray visited Clayton regarding tourism and a report is forth coming. The timing and details of the event will be determined once a speaker is secured, and we are now looking at fall 2024.

Board Evaluations

Kristi stated that Board Evaluations are nearly complete. The evaluations will be reviewed and shared with all Board Members at an upcoming Board meeting.

Ringer Building

A grant was awarded for an environmental assessment study to be conducted on the property.

Center for Businesses in Transition (CBIT)

The liaison training is underway, and Kristi has requested information from CBIT to provide to our local chambers and to place on the CLDC website.

Committee Reports

No updates to report.

Under Municipal Updates:

Planning Board - Doug Rogers stated there is nothing to report as the meeting last month was cancelled.

Town of Clayton – Supervisor, Tim Doney states the following:

- A sewer modification is under review for the hamlet of Depauville.
- The Town River Walk Dock project by WD Bach is expected to be completed by June 30th. The river walk pavers have been removed and will be replaced with red concrete. The river walk space is larger and will accommodate new benches and “rain gardens”.

Village of Clayton – Mayor Nancy Hyde updated the board on the following topics:

- The Village Mayor and Town Supervisor have held several meetings to discuss various topics.
- The Village will be recognized for the REDI project completions and DC Building Systems will receive an award.
- The Village was also recognized under the American Public Works Association to include Baron & Loguidice, engineers.
- Letters of support from dignitaries are being received in support of the Washington Island Bridge project.
- Assemblyman Scott Gray is contacting Governor Hochul’s office to protest prison closures.
- There will be a vacant trustee seat on the Village Board, and they will be seeking a replacement.



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TICSD – School Superintendent Mike Bashaw provided the following updates:

- The recent Algebra test scores at TI were outstanding. TI had many more students taking the exam and mastering versus other schools with just a few students. Other TI test scores were also very strong, which is a testament to the quality of educations in our schools.
- Capital Campaign Project will begin in May and was approved last year. There will be several phases to include abatement, mechanical (heating) and others. Classrooms will be moved to accommodate the work. The elementary schools in Clayton and Cape Vincent will be closed for the summer so the projects can be completed.
- Student population numbers continue to be down, overall.
- The proposed reduction in State aid for TICS is receiving great opposition from Assemblyman Scott Gray.

Jack Stopper stated that Mayor Jerry Golden of Cape Vincent is very involved in the community improvement plans after receiving the NY Forward grant. There may be regional efforts for busing throughout the river communities.

Chair Ganter asked the guests if they had any questions or wished to make a comment. None were received.

The next Regular Board Meeting will be held on March 7, 2024. Supervisor Doney will confirm that the next meeting may take place at the Town offices. On a motion by Chris Bogenschutz second by Bobby Cantwell, the meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine A. Powers
Secretary