

**RCS Community Business Association
Economic Development Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2019
3:30 pm**

Members in Attendance:

Brian Bailey, Superintendent of Schools, RCS School District

Dan Baker, Board Member, Town of Coeymans

Linda Bruno, STARS Intergen Corp.

John Cashin, Code Enforcement, Town of Coymans

Aaron Flach, Flach Development and RCS CBA (Committee Chair)

Rebecca Flach, Hope Full Life Center Inc. and RCS CBA

Joy Iafallo, Gabler Realty and RCS CBA

Glenn Lasher, Retired Business Owner

Linda Muller, Village Trustee

Marlene McTigue, Columbia-Greene Media, Albany County IDA and RCS CBA

Kathi Palmer, Business Owner

Barbara Way, KeyBank

Mission: To provide advisement and concepts to local leaders and act as a conduit of communication among businesses, industry, and our municipalities.

The meeting was called to order at 3:37 pm.

Agenda Item #1: Welcome and Introductions.

Rebecca Flach introduced Barbara Way from KeyBank and Joy Iafallo from Gabler Realty as new additions to the committee.

Agenda Item #2: Review of comprehensive planning research.

The committee discussed the information collected over the summer regarding grants to fund joint comprehensive planning. The only state funded opportunity for this purpose is through a Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (LWRP) grant. Extensive discussion ensued about how this grant works, including how municipal applicants must pay for 25% of the total cost of the project, which could run upwards of \$125,000. The committee discussed how the Town and Village should split the 25% 50/50. This would require each government to provide \$15,625 toward the project. The LWRP funding would be used to hire a consultant to help the municipalities with information gathering and public input. The consultant writes the plan based on all the input provided.

Information gathered about the possible future employment of an economic development professional was also discussed. The joint comprehensive plan is needed first as this provides direction to the development professional.

Discussion continued about the Town's 2020 budget. The budget will be adopted soon and it needs to include the Town's portion of funding to apply for the LWRP grant.

Glenn Lasher made the motion to recommend to the RCS CBA Board of Directors that it pursue an LWRP grant and funding for it with the Town of Coeymans. The motion was seconded by Joy Iafallo. All in favor. Motion carries.

Agenda Item #3. Discuss proposed outreach initiative.

A letter to the Town Board, drafted by Rebecca Flach and Barbara Way and signed by RCS CBA Chair Aaron Flach, was circulated and reviewed. The letter encourages the Town Board to participate in the LWRP and to set aside \$15,625 in the 2020 budget for the LWRP project.

Barbara Way made a motion to recommend to the RCS CBA Board of Directors that it submit this letter to the Town of Coeymans Board. Marlene McTigue seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Other strategies and tactics to encourage the Town Board to add the requested funding to the 2020 budget were discussed.

Agenda Item #4. Set date for next meeting and adjourn.

The committee agreed to wait to see what the Town Board's response to the request will be as the committee may or may not need to meet before the Budget Hearing in November.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Rebecca Flach
EDAC Committee Member
RCS CBA Immediate Past Chair