



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Knowledge Park; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510
February 20, 2020

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 2020
5. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS
6. COMMENTS BY CHAIRMAN
7. PUBLIC COMMENT
8. PRESENTATION
9. COMMITTEE REPORTS
 - a. Treasurer’s Report
 - b. Strategic Planning Committee
 - c. Update from County Council
 - d. Update from County Executive’s Office
10. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
11. SOLICITOR’S REPORT
12. OLD BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Executive Director’s Employment Contract
 - b. Resolution Number 1, 2020 - Resolution to adopt the funding for the 2020 Summer Jobs & More Program
14. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2020

Time: BOARD MEETING: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Knowledge Park; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting
January 16, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on January 16, 2020 in the Board Room; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510. Legal Notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times-News. The meeting was called to order by the Chair.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Barney, Mr. Bagnoni, Mr. Cleaver, Mr. DiPaolo, Ms. Hess, Mr. Paris, and Mr. Sample (via phone). Mr. Lee, Mr. Wachter and Dr. Wood are also present.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Cleaver seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the agenda. Motion carries 7-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 2019

Ms. Hess makes a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. There is no discussion on the minutes. Motion carries 7-0.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

There are no comments at this time.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Paris: I just want to wish everyone a Happy New Year. I also want to wish Perry a happy belated birthday. I gave you a little present – this throwback pic!

PUBLIC COMMENT

There is no public comment.

PRESENTATIONS

There are no presentations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Barney presented the Treasurer's Report during the Finance Committee meeting prior to today's Board meeting.

There is no further discussion of the Treasurers Report. Ms. Hess makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Cleaver seconds the motion. Motion carries 7-0.

- b. Strategic Planning Committee: Mr. Paris: We did not have a Strategic Planning meeting, but we did have the Personnel Committee meeting.
- c. Update from County Council: Mr. Horton is not present so there is nothing to report.
- d. Update from County Executive's Office: Mr. Lee: Good morning, Mr. Chairman and good morning, Board. I just want to get everyone up to speed about the community college. A public hearing is going to be held March 18 at 10:00am at the Blasco Library; this will be an evidentiary hearing which means that while it is open to the public, the public will not be able to come up and start speaking like we have seen in the past. This will be set up more from a court perspective where the Board will be the judge and the attorneys for the various parties will call witnesses and they will have a chance to give testimony and be cross-examined. We're looking at this being an all-day affair; we've been told that at the end of the day on March 18 the Board will take a vote and we will know one way or another if we are approved. We are very happy about that and hope that comes to fruition.

The reason I say hopefully, there has been some talk about making sure there is a quorum for the Board – this is the Pennsylvania State Board of Education. We know that our weather sometimes can be a little tricky, although you can't tell that by today and what we've been having thus far, but there has been some concern expressed whether there will be a quorum. Of course, we can't deal with things out of our control, so hopefully on March 18, we will know one way or another whether we have been approved by the State Board of Education for a community college. Are there any questions?

Mr. Cleaver: Let me ask you, after the decision is there an appeal process by any chance or it is what it is?

Mr. Lee: To answer your question, no, there is no appealing process. For whatever reason if the County was denied, we can take legal action through the courts. Hopefully it will not come down to that. The Department of Education has already provided their findings of recommendation and they stated that we met the criteria to be a stand-alone community college. Now it's the Board's decision and gets to vote, not only in that findings, but based on

the Special Committee's recommendations which was a committee that was set up with three Board members tasked to look at this in depth and they recommended that we have this particular hearing here on March 18. Are there any other questions? Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wood: You'll see on Board Effect that there is an Executive Director's Report. The first page gives you an idea of our grants management for the 2020 calendar year. Special Events is currently open, Municipal Collaboration is currently open, and the Neighborhoods & Communities is mentioned there too which I'm going to go into more detail later in my report. Those programs are the Anchor Building and Renaissance Block.

Next, you'll see the report from Ridge Policy Group; the current grant concept we're working on is called the BUILD grant – it used to be known as the TIGER grant. This is the big transportation funding grant and we're going to have some conversations with folks. This has to be multi-municipal, so we're going to reignite those discussions. The City was not prepared to participate in those last year, but I think after this year they might be, so we'll light that up. Also, the STEM Apprenticeship Program is being looked at by several school districts and being quarterbacked by Ryan Bookhammer who is head of the gifted program and the 3-D printing lab in the Fairview School District. He is bringing in multiple districts and potentially multiple counties outside of Erie County, but Erie County will be our focus obviously. They're going to attempt a competitive grant cycle there.

The next page is a letter from Knox Law Firm basically stating what the legal hourly rate is. We get this once a year, correct?

Mr. Wachter: Once a year; it's a \$5 increase.

Dr. Wood: That letter does recognize that we get a special nonprofit rate. Next, you'll see the quote for Officers and Liability Insurance from Professional Government Underwriters. I gave you all a hard copy but included it in the Director's Report as well. You'll see that we did a Lead Asset Press Conference and a distribution of those funds since the last Board meeting. There was also some press on the Beehive that Gannon did and then a series of articles that came out about Innovation District, Renaissance Block, things like that that are tacked on to the end of the report.

The real meat and potatoes is the document you have in front of you titled Neighborhoods & Communities Midterm Evaluation that I have prepared to review with you here. I have been working with the staff on this for the last couple of months; this is a guidepost, an indicator, a wind sock – how is the program doing? It's not complete; it's about halfway through. A lot of information has been captured here, so let me kind of walk you through it.

If you open up to the first page, you'll see an Executive Summary. Neighborhoods & Communities is basically three grants: Anchor Building, Mission Main Street, and Renaissance Block. They're all about improving place, not necessarily people. These are not people-based nonprofits or municipalities, these are places that are being improved. In this report I wanted to capture three things: Where have the funds been invested?, How is the implementation process going?, and lastly I wanted to illustrate some interim outcomes because we are collecting reports from these folks, and these are multi-year grants.

Page three is a brief introduction that I will skip over so let's go to pages four and five which I've summarized the qualitative outcomes thus far. The program is meeting the goal of serving a county-wide audience. We have nine neighborhoods within the City of Erie that are engaged in these programs and we have six communities in the rural parts of Erie County that are engaged; that's pretty representative of population centers. I know that we want to make focused investments, but that is the nature of these funds – you focus on a commercial corridor, you focus on a residential district

nearby, you focus on an Anchor Building that can have a positive economic effect on one of those or both of them.

The second point to make is that we have quantifiable outcomes as well; there are homes that are being repaired, there are business facades that are being improved, and there are historic structures with commercial value that are being preserved as part of this process. How to measure success long-term on an initiative like this is a different question. We have seen Jamestown Renaissance Block and what they have done is they have captured data before the implementation of the program then they did a five-year longitudinal study, and what they found, and this was part of the justification for us coming up with these programs, is that property values were increased. You could translate that another way – neighborhoods are being stabilized as a result of a program like Renaissance Block. Jamestown did it and I think we can too. In the short term, we have photos; before and after photos and we have some data as to how much money is being invested by property owners and how much is being invested by the organizations that we're putting money into.

This leads me into the next point, we're getting great leverage on these programs. So, private capital is being invested clearly by homeowners and other funders are jumping on board. So, in places like Corry, the Corry Community Foundation and in North East, the North East Community Foundation, they're jumping on board with these concepts. The third is the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania with its NAP Tax Credits (Neighborhood Assistance Program Tax Credit) which has grown in tremendous popularity. The overall state bucket just went from \$18 million to \$32 million and in this past fiscal year it was undersubscribed by \$4 million, so there is room for growth. We had a meeting with DCED about this trend and they are targeting economically disadvantaged neighborhoods, so that program is working perfectly well. However, we're helping other economically disadvantaged neighborhoods that aren't accessing the program. It's going to be an ongoing collaboration between the State and ECGRA on how to help these communities access these funds. You'll also see the dollar amount of \$1.3 million of NAP Tax Credit has been used as match to ECGRA funds of \$1.7.

Mr. Wachter: The report that you said was done on the increased property values, is there any correlation that they have found between the amount of the investment and the increase in the values?

Dr. Wood: Correlation is the right word, I'm glad you used that word. The primary correlation that was found in the report was when you target neighborhoods and then make the next investment in Renaissance Block consecutive to your initial investment, you get increased property values. When you spread the funds too thin, you do not get the same type of impact. So, in years one and two, as we talk to these folks about opening Renaissance Block again, we want to see contiguous investments. If your first investment was the East 6th Street corridor, maybe your next investment is the East 7th Street corridor. I don't want to be too prescriptive; we're going to have these conversations with applicants, but that is what the quantifiable results are from the Jamestown report.

Mr. Wachter: I think it would be helpful for local governments and school districts, if, when those studies are done, you could show what the result and impact on taxes are as well. Increased home values, increased tax collection. Of course, that won't kick in until you have a county-wide reassessment or the project they're doing they have to pull a permit for. But at the end of the day, I think local governments would like to see that.

Dr. Wood: That's a great idea, Tim. The fourth point is that there has been both economic impact and equitable development through these grants. From an economic development standpoint, housing stock is being improved, the market dynamics in commercial corridors are changing, and finally, we are proactively preventing blight. We're the entity in Erie County at this point that is proactively addressing blight, whereas the land bank is reacting to blight. That's how the two compliment each other, and that's a wonderful synergy there.

For most people, their home is their largest source of wealth; I don't see that trend changing anytime soon – it's what they have equity in so it makes a program like this that much more important. For the commercial corridors, attracting customers is the most important and we have a ton of studies that show that historic preservation has an effect on your local economy. The results are out there, and our strategy is consistent with that.

The equitable development side is another interesting way of looking at that; it's more like improving the social fabric of communities. One way to look at that is that it's about self-determination. In essence, we are empowering these neighborhood groups to work with their residents to fix up their own communities, to get actively engaged, and to put their own funds into the process. We don't have data of what the races of the homeowners that are accessing the program; we only have it geographically at this point. So, from an equitable standpoint I can say that we are definitely serving all of Erie County, we're definitely empowering neighborhood groups that have been formed by neighbors in order to improve their communities. Those are the four outcomes.

Moving on, I will briefly say that in each program, Anchor Building, Mission Main Street, and Renaissance Block, the first paragraph is a description of the program, the second paragraph is the significance of the program, and the third paragraph are the examples followed by a chart. If you flip over to page six, you may be wondering where all the grants have gone, and this shows you a nice concise chart showing the applicants, the titles of their projects, their request, what we awarded, and finally the interim results. Of course, we have interim results from last year, but the 2019 awards were just given so we have results from 2018 recipients but not the 2019 recipients. You will be seeing results in the spring construction season as they begin most of their projects.

There is some great summary information on all three programs. If you skip to page seven you will see the information about Mission Main Street, page eight shows the chart with the twelve main streets we funded. If you flip over to page nine, there is Renaissance Block and the chart associated with that. If you follow me to page ten, even though you know this stuff already, we're putting this in the report because this report eventually will become a document that the public can see and, later on, I think a document that elected officials see as well. This is a reminder on what our process looks like. If you remember, this is part of the ECGRA Board Orientation, it's also part of a new County Council member orientation, and that is, how does ECGRA make decisions? If you ever wondered, this three-step process really lays it out. There are public plans that represent the communities will that the elected officials oversee. Some of those are listed there in bullet points. The staff reads all of those plans, literally all of them, with dog-eared copies as we try to figure out what the community's will is and what the elected officials want.

The second step is benchmarking. We have a plan, and these plans are big on strategy but they're not very big on tactics. That has been our experience anyways. So, we have to look at what other communities have done so we can learn from those communities, that's where the benchmarking comes in. Jamestown Renaissance Block is a great example; that's a tactical approach to neighborhood renewal. I'm sure there are plenty of studies in Jamestown that say the neighborhood renewal is important and we ought to do it. But the real question is, how?

Finally, what is ECGRA's role? It's for the staff to synthesize with you guys in discussion those first two processes, which are the plans and the benchmarks, into guidelines. Then we have the discussion with you about the guidelines, we assign dollars figures to it, we right-size the amount of the grants, we put it into the grants management plan, and then we execute. Of course, there are close-out reports and in some cases, there are special reports like the one in your hands right now. We put that in there as a reminder to anyone who might look at this document that that is what the process looks like.

Page eleven is just a couple paragraphs on placemaking; we might move this up to the front. These are the exact places where the investments are taking place. The City neighborhoods in some cases are self-named and in other cases they are names that have been pulled from Erie Refocused, the City's comprehensive plan. The right-hand side shows the rural communities that are engaging in these three programs. There is a section on leverage; we require a dollar for dollar match so you can see my projections for 2020 and 2021. ECGRA has money set aside for these programs and we know we're going to get a minimum of 1:1 match or we wouldn't be approving the grants. For the

2020 grants, we're going to get leverage of \$2.4 million. That number will go up as the actual leverage dollars come in and I think what we'll find in most cases is that there is a larger investment than what we require of match. We have seen that with NAP Tax Credits in several circumstances.

Mission Related Investments – two examples are laid out there and the reason why they're examples and they haven't been executed on is because their fundraising hasn't been completed for either one. As you will recall, last year we went through an extensive due diligence process with the staff and then talked with the Board in committee process about two big MRIs. These are the first two MRIs that deviate from the small business development theme and come on over here to the Neighborhoods & Communities theme of investments. The first was Erie Center for Arts & Technology which is Wayne School Reimagined. That of course is redevelopment of that historic structure into this type of training facility which is also going to have a health care facility and perhaps a food bank attached to it and some other services. Daria has recently given us a report on that and everything is going very well. I shared it with Tim since Tim and I will be coordinating on when that loan will be closing, along with the other funders. That is a \$500,000 loan, mission related investment.

Ms. Hess: Where is Daria at with, didn't she have to get so many things in place to be able to take advantage of the . . .

Dr. Wood: It appears that all of those things are in place. In fact, PNC loved the project so much that they added another million in financing to it.

Ms. Hess: That's great for the community.

Dr. Wood: It's great for the community, and just a reminder that this is Erie County's first ever New Market Tax Credit project, which is a complicated tax credit to execute and she has done an amazing job of making it translatable.

The other MRI in process is Sustain North East; we did not expect that to be done by the end of the calendar year. That is a loan fund that we made a \$400,000 commitment to. They are in the process of finding their match as well. I will come back to you with updates as those things come along, but as you can see these are MRIs associated with this particular theme of ECGRA funding.

Let me close with recommendations. We basically have four recommendations for everyone to think about. The first is that with this information we absolutely recommend continuing the programs. We have already budgeted for this and we have it in the grants management plan, but I just want to go on record as saying the next round of Renaissance Block absolutely should be launched alongside Anchor Building because we're seeing results.

The next recommendation is that Neighborhoods & Communities, this report format, could be a great report for local government officials. State Reps, our Senator, members of County Council, County Executive, and so on. This would be a great report to show them the great diligence we're going through and what takes place. This is a mid-term evaluation. People are often asking me, "How do you know something is working?" I tell them we collect information, but then they ask, "What do you do with it?" When it's as complex as this, we try to put it in report format so it's translatable. We really ought to use this report as a good government relations tool.

Next, there is the potential to collaborate with other funders. No one else is doing this type of work in Erie County. We have been approached by a couple of funders. I don't want to set an expectation with you right now, but I think we ought to explore it. Obviously, I'll come back to the Board and talk about it but it's been everything from, "Can you share your research with us?" which I have no problem doing, to, "Maybe you guys should administer this for Erie County since you're doing such a great job." We'll continue to have that conversation. Like I said, I don't want to set an expectation of anything here that is too far down the road. It is just basically in talk; a potential phase.

Finally, we wanted to do further research projects on other forms of grants that could potentially be added to this. We're not trying to add another grant, but it is potential that we can amend these ones or add a new one to fit our purposes. That will stem from our benchmarking

research but also focus group discussions with the applicants on the effectiveness of the current programs. That's often how we tweak grant guidelines; we have focus groups, we have individual interviews.

In conclusion, I'll just read the paragraph here – The ECGRA teams' background in local government, neighborhood renewal, main street management, planning, redevelopment, and construction activities makes us uniquely positioned to design and administer this trio of programs. In addition, our collective networks with the City of Erie and the rural parts of Erie County have been strengthened through these programs. The staff believes that a strong foundation has been laid to make Neighborhoods & Communities a signature thematic area for many years to come. As the Authority moves forward, we will continue to collect status reports and financial data to inform the board of directors. Should you have any specific questions, requests or comments, do not hesitate to share with myself or the staff.

Thank you very much.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter has nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Review of Insurance Rates

Mr. Bagnoni: Do we go out to bid or something?

Dr. Wood: We did about seven or eight years ago and landed on Great Lakes Insurance in order to provide copies of the best underwriter and this is the one they came back with.

Mr. Cleaver: You just got this one?

Dr. Wood: This year, yes. But back in the day, when we first did this, we had multiple options.

Mr. Bagnoni: The Airport Authority used to go out for bids every year. But we had like 20 insurance policies that we had. It was a culmination, so we had everybody bidding on it.

Dr. Wood: This is not a bid, it's just more renewal of existing.

Mr. Cleaver: As long as it went down a few bucks, it's fine.

Dr. Wood: This is for Officers and Liability Insurance; it's probably the most important insurance we have here because it protects everyone on this Board from up to \$1 million in potential liability.

Mr. Bagnoni: That's a good thing.

Dr. Wood: We will need a motion to accept this since it's over \$5,000.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the insurance quote as presented. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. There is no further discussion. Motion carries 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no new business to address.

Mr. Barney moves to adjourn.

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Profit & Loss
Janaury 2020**

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2019-20 Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
44800 · Gaming Revenue		3,078,614.53		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	12,180.87	118,218.11		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC - Erie Growth		22,916.67		
46424 · Interest Income - Progress Fund		20,000.00		
46425 · Interest Income - EDF Restruct	3,252.71	13,008.13		
46426 · Int. Income - BWC - Inclusive		19,097.22		
46427 · Interest Income - Blue Highway	2,447.37	4,674.51		
46430 · Miscellaneous Revenue				
Total Income	<u>17,880.95</u>	<u>3,276,529.17</u>		
Expense				
62100 · Contracted Services	7,275.05	99,538.30	121,670.00	146,000.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	1,452.31	13,126.78	19,170.00	23,000.00
65000 · Office Administration	1,474.28	11,781.11	22,200.00	26,650.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	10,315.29	47,340.01	50,710.00	60,850.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	19,379.63	178,869.21	189,375.00	227,250.00
Total Expense	<u>39,896.56</u>	<u>350,655.41</u>	<u>403,125.00</u>	<u>483,750.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(22,015.61)	2,925,873.76		
Other Income/Expense				
70000 · Grants / Settlements				
70030 · Community Assets	287,308.60	433,708.60		
70050 · Municipal Settlements		769,653.63		
70070 · Special Events		175,515.39		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration		295,655.00		
70100 · Mission Main Street		683,840.00		
70120 · Summer Jobs Program	2,360.69	134,987.65		
70130 · Small Business Financing		0.00		
70140 · Pilot Projects		55,000.00		
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow		0.00		
70170 · Renaissance Block		119,920.00		
70180 · Anchor Building	176,000.00	260,276.20		
Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements	<u>465,669.29</u>	<u>2,928,556.47</u>		
Net Other Income	<u>(465,669.29)</u>	<u>(2,928,556.47)</u>		
Net Income	<u>(487,684.90)</u>	<u>(2,682.71)</u>		



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Balance Sheet
As of January 31, 2020

	January
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	39,921.93
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10101 · Committed Funds	4,182,421.92
10102 · Restricted Funds	3,303,607.95
10100 · ErieBank - Savings - Other	2,241,639.05
Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings	9,727,668.92
Total Checking/Savings	9,767,590.85
Other Current Assets	
12000 · Notes Receivable	
12003 · Note Receivable - CIBA	18,846.25
12004 · Note Receivable - BWC - Erie Growth	1,000,000.00
12005 · Note Receivable - Progress	1,000,000.00
12010 · Note Receivable - 1855 Capital	500,000.00
12050 · Note Receivable - EDF Restruct	1,300,000.00
12060 · Notes Receivable - BWC - Inclu	2,500,000.00
12070 · Note Receivable - Blue Highway	250,000.00
12900 · Reserve for Uncollectable Notes	(1,310,000.00)
Total 12000 · Notes Receivable	5,258,846.25
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	1,892.65
Total Other Current Assets	5,260,738.90
Total Current Assets	15,028,329.75
TOTAL ASSETS	15,028,329.75
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	2,927,064.18
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	12,103,948.28
Net Income	(2,682.71)
Total Equity	15,028,329.75
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	15,028,329.75



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Statement of Cash Flows
January 2020

	<u>January</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Net Income	-487,684.90
Adjustments to reconcile Net Income to net cash provided by operations:	
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	-1,910.08
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>-489,594.98</u>
Net cash increase for period	-489,594.98
Cash at beginning of period	<u>10,257,185.83</u>
Cash at end of period	<u><u>9,767,590.85</u></u>



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Budget vs. Actual
January 2020

	January	YTD	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
Expense					
62100 · Contracted Services					
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	12,740.32	11,500.00	1,240.32	110.79%
62120 · Government Relations Services	4,000.00	38,381.05	58,000.00	(19,618.95)	66.17%
62130 · Professional Services	2,490.00	35,790.00	36,000.00	(210.00)	99.42%
62140 · Legal Services	665.00	10,522.00	35,000.00	(24,478.00)	30.06%
62145 · Website Design	0.00	1,182.43	4,000.00	(2,817.57)	29.56%
62150 · Payroll Services	120.05	922.50	1,500.00	(577.50)	61.50%
Total 62100 · Contracted Services	7,275.05	99,538.30	146,000.00	(46,461.70)	68.18%
62800 · Facilities & Equipment					
62840 · Office Equipment	0.00	55.99	5,000.00	(4,944.01)	1.12%
62890 · Rent	1,452.31	13,070.79	18,000.00	(4,929.21)	72.62%
Total 62800 · Facilities & Equipment	1,452.31	13,126.78	23,000.00	(9,873.22)	57.07%
65000 · Office Administration					
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Dues	35.97	2,387.98	3,500.00	(1,112.02)	68.23%
65020 · Postage	69.07	384.54	500.00	(115.46)	76.91%
65030 · Printing	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	(1,000.00)	0.00%
65040 · Office Supplies	107.44	1,330.42	2,800.00	(1,469.58)	47.52%
65050 · Cell Phone	481.52	1,297.75	2,200.00	(902.25)	58.99%
65060 · Copier Lease	345.95	3,113.55	4,200.00	(1,086.45)	74.13%
65070 · Copier Printing Costs	380.52	813.19	2,000.00	(1,186.81)	40.66%
65080 · Bank Fees	0.00	130.00	200.00	(70.00)	65.00%
65085 · Professional Development	0.00	1,001.00	5,000.00	(3,999.00)	20.02%
65090 · Meeting Expenses	53.81	1,322.68	5,000.00	(3,677.32)	26.45%
65095 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
Total 65000 · Office Administration	1,474.28	11,781.11	26,650.00	(14,868.89)	44.21%
65100 · Other Types of Expenses					
65105 · Outreach	1,000.00	5,596.50	12,000.00	(6,403.50)	46.64%
65110 · Advertising	183.30	4,566.80	12,000.00	(7,433.20)	38.06%
65115 · Phone/IT/Fax	815.39	14,484.25	18,000.00	(3,515.75)	80.47%
65120 · Insurance	7,412.92	14,594.20	9,850.00	4,744.20	148.16%
65130 · Grant Management Software	0.00	4,900.00	4,900.00	0.00	100.00%
65150 · Travel	903.68	3,198.26	9,000.00	(5,801.74)	35.54%
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	10,315.29	47,340.01	65,750.00	(18,409.99)	72.00%
66000 · Payroll Expenses					
66005 · Salaries & Wages	16,895.05	159,035.42	201,000.00	(41,964.58)	79.12%
66010 · FITW Tax	1,311.69	12,399.32	15,100.00	(2,700.68)	82.11%
66015 · FUTA Tax	81.53	81.53	150.00	(68.47)	54.35%
66020 · PASUI Tax	441.36	540.40	2,000.00	(1,459.60)	27.02%
66500 · Retirement	650.00	6,812.54	9,000.00	(2,187.46)	75.69%
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	19,379.63	178,869.21	227,250.00	(48,380.79)	78.71%
Total Expense	39,896.56	350,655.41	488,650.00	(137,994.59)	71.76%



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of January 31, 2020

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Restricted Uncommitted Funds	3,303,607.95		
Committed Funds	4,182,421.92		

2019 Restricted Funds: (75% - after settlement payments)

First Quarter Gaming Revenue		279,989.73	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue		985,614.81	
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue		1,391,141.81	
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue			2,656,746.35

FY Disbursements:

First Quarter Disbursements		880,820.03	
Second Quarter Disbursements		742,426.43	
Third Quarter Disbursements		846,405.45	
Fourth Quarter Disbursements	465,669.29	465,669.29	2,935,321.20

Disbursements Detail

Grants/Settlements

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>	
Community Assets				
ACH	Community Access Television		7,000.00	
	Edinboro Highland Games		8,000.00	
	Erie Yesterday		12,250.00	
	Film Society of Northwestern PA		15,000.00	
	Goodell Gardens & Homestead		10,000.00	
	Greater Erie Alliance for Equality		7,000.00	
	Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.		10,000.00	
	League of Women Voters Erie Co. Chapter		15,000.00	
	North East Community Fair Association		3,150.00	
	Presque Isle Chapter, NSDAR		15,000.00	
	WQLN Public Media		6,000.00	
	Young Artists Debut Orchestra		10,000.00	
	AmeriMasala		8,000.00	
	Edinboro Arts & Music Fest		10,000.00	
	Corry Community Development Corp.		10,000.00	
	PFT	Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.	14,918.23	14,918.23
		Bayfront Eastside Taskforce	20,000.00	20,000.00
Borough of Edinboro		25,000.00	25,000.00	
Headwaters Natural Resource Center Trust		25,000.00	25,000.00	
Humane Society of NWPA		15,000.00	15,000.00	
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier		14,712.37	14,712.37	
Lake Erie Region Conservancy		12,459.00	12,459.00	
Platea Borough		2,500.00	2,500.00	
Springfield Township		3,750.00	3,750.00	
Washington Township		16,500.00	16,500.00	

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of January 31, 2020

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
CC Academy Neighborhood Association	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Booker T. Washington Center	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Borough of Girard	5,000.00	5,000.00	
Borough of North East	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Community Health Net	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Edinboro Legion Pool, Inc.	15,000.00	15,000.00	
JFK Center	2,954.00	2,954.00	
Martin Luther King Center	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Northwestern Community Youth Center	3,000.00	3,000.00	
Urban Erie Community Development Corp	15,000.00	15,000.00	
YMCA of Corry	12,000.00	12,000.00	
YMCA of Greater Erie	11,515.00	11,515.00	
			433,708.60

Special Events

Achievement Center	1,449.48
Albion Area Fair, Inc.	10,351.80
AmeriMasala	1,070.28
Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.	876.60
Borough of North East	1,540.80
Borough of Union City	454.10
CAFE	12,085.20
Corry Area Arts Council	277.20
Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc.	2,000.02
Downtown North East, Inc.	4,558.50
Barber National Institute	9,626.09
Edinboro Highland Games	2,124.00
Edinboro University Foundation	7,668.00
Erie Homes for Children and Adults, Inc	2,367.00
Erie Asian Pacific American Association	684.00
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	5,847.55
Erie Downtown Partnership	4,014.00
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.	3,204.14
French Creek Council, BSA	492.03
Harborcreek Township	881.96
Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church	4,982.40
Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	11,340.00
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier	1,476.00
Lake Erie Fanfare, Inc.	3,801.60
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society	5,076.00
Mercy Center for Women	1,629.00
Preservation Erie	448.20
Presque Isle Partnership	3,500.82
Roar on the Shore Inc.	17,421.75
SafeNet	1,620.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of January 31, 2020

	<u>Janaury</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
Saint Joseph Church		3,600.00	
Saint Patrick Church		4,181.40	
ServErie		3,060.00	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		3,310.80	
Goodell Gardens & Homestead		810.00	
Iroquois School District Foundation		3,171.60	
The Nonprofit Partnership		3,510.00	
Tom Ridge Environmental Center Foundation		608.40	
Union City Pride		722.14	
Waterford Community Fair Association		6,118.67	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		10,575.14	
WQLN Public Media		1,722.96	
YMCA of Greater Erie		8,535.42	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		2,214.54	
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie		505.80	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			175,515.39
 Municipalities			
Summit Township		346,344.13	
Greene Township		84,661.90	
McKean Township		84,661.90	
Millcreek Township		84,661.90	
Waterford Township		84,661.90	
Erie County		84,661.90	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			769,653.63
 Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
1 Erie Area Council of Governments			
return of unspent funds - 2018 MMC		-30,000.00	
Census 2020 Outreach - 2nd payment		50,000.00	
JES - Civic Leadership Academy		100,000.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			120,000.00
2 Borough of North East		82,000.00	
Girard Township		17,000.00	
West County Paramedic Association		70,000.00	
West Erie County EMA		6,655.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			175,655.00
 Neighborhoods & Communities			
Renaissance Block			
Borough of Union City		25,000.00	
Our West Bayfront		40,000.00	
Preservation Erie		26,920.00	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		28,000.00	
		<hr/>	<hr/>
			119,920.00

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of January 31, 2020**

	<u>January</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
Anchor Building			
Grace Church 2018		20,000.00	
Performing Artists Collective Alliance 2018		69,501.20	
City of Corry - return of unspent funds 2018		-5,225.00	
Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Inc.	42,000.00	42,000.00	
Erie Center for Arts & Technology	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Erie Masonic Temple Preservation Foundati	14,000.00	14,000.00	
Housing & Neighborhood Development Servic	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Impact Corry	15,000.00	15,000.00	
Mercy Center for Women	80,000.00	80,000.00	
			260,276.20
Mission Main Street - Round 2A			
Borough of Edinboro		95,350.00	
Borough of Union City		75,000.00	
			170,350.00
Mission Main Street - Round 2B			
Our West Bayfront		116,190.00	
Preservation Erie		28,000.00	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		90,500.00	
			234,690.00
Mission Main Street - Round 3			
Borough of Girard		80,000.00	
Impact Corry		115,200.00	
Waterford Borough		83,600.00	
			278,800.00
Small Business Financing			
Youth & Education			
Summer Jobs & More			
Greater Erie Community Action Committee	2,360.69	131,354.58	
			131,354.58
Pilot Programs			
Partnership for a Healthy Community		50,000.00	
JES - Building an Iconic Connection		5,000.00	
			55,000.00
Total Funds Disbursements	465,669.29	2,924,923.40	2,924,923.40

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of January 31, 2020

	<u>January</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
Committed Funds:			
Renaissance Block			
1 Academy Neighborhood Association		11,250.00	22,500.00
Borough of North East		0.00	50,000.00
Borough of Union City		0.00	50,000.00
Our West Bayfront		10,000.00	100,000.00
Robbins Blass Neighborhood Watch		0.00	6,000.00
Sisters of Mercy		0.00	25,000.00
SSJ Neighborhood Network		7,000.00	70,000.00
2 Bayfront Eastside Taskforce		25,000.00	50,000.00
Preservation Erie		0.00	53,840.00
ServErie		29,000.00	58,000.00
Anchor Building			
18 Emmaus Ministries, Inc.		5,000.00	100,000.00
Grace Church		80,000.00	100,000.00
Our West Bayfront		80,000.00	100,000.00
Performing Artists Collective Alliance		5,000.00	93,126.50
19 Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Inc.	42,000.00	0.00	42,000.00
Erie Center for Arts & Technology	15,000.00	60,000.00	75,000.00
Erie Masonic Temple Preservation Foundation	14,000.00	56,000.00	70,000.00
Housing & Neighborhood Development Services	10,000.00	40,000.00	50,000.00
Impact Corry	15,000.00	60,000.00	75,000.00
Mercy Center for Women	80,000.00	20,000.00	100,000.00
Mission Main Street			
1 Borough of North East		110,000.00	250,000.00
Borough of Union City		0.00	10,000.00
City of Erie		225,000.00	250,000.00
Erie Downtown Partnership		180,000.00	250,000.00
2A Borough of Edinboro		154,650.00	250,000.00
Borough of Union City		125,000.00	200,000.00
2B Our West Bayfront		133,810.00	250,000.00
Preservation Erie		122,000.00	150,000.00
SSJ Neighborhood Network		159,500.00	250,000.00
3 Borough of Girard		90,000.00	170,000.00
Impact Corry		87,200.00	202,400.00
Waterford Borough		166,200.00	249,800.00
Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
Erie Area Council of Governments		0.00	50,000.00
GECAC - Summer Jobs Program 2019	2,360.69	18,645.42	150,000.00
PennVenture Partners		1,000,000.00	1,000,000.00
Shaping Tomorrow			
Empower Erie - Community College		370,000.00	400,000.00
Erie's Public Schools - Tech After Hours		66,666.50	200,000.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
As of January 31, 2020

	<u>January</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
Committed Funds (cont):			
Beehive Network			
Edinboro University Foundation		143,000.00	200,000.00
Erie Regional Library Foundation		115,000.00	200,000.00
Gannon University		175,000.00	200,000.00
Mercyhurst University		102,500.00	200,000.00
Penn State University (Behrend)		100,000.00	200,000.00
Pilot Program			
Partnership for a Healthy Community		50,000.00	100,000.00
Total Committed Funds	<u>178,360.69</u>	<u>4,182,421.92</u>	<u>6,672,666.50</u>

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Check Detail Report
January 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01/03/2020	EFT	VISA	2019 December Statement	-289.79
01/07/2020	2854	Dale Barney	4th Qtr 2019 Travel	-56.46
01/07/2020	2855	Dave Sample	4th Qtr 2019 Travel	-126.44
01/07/2020	2856	David Bagnoni	4th Qtr 2019 Travel	-89.38
01/07/2020	2857	Jamestown Renaissance Corporation	Renaissance Block Workshop	-500.00
01/07/2020	2858	Mike Paris	4th Qtr 2019 Travel	-115.54
01/07/2020	2859	Parker Philips	2019 December Communications	-2,490.00
01/07/2020	2860	Perry Wood	4th Qtr 2019 Expense and Travel	-613.87
01/07/2020	2861	Tammi Michali	4th Qtr 2019 Expense and Travel	-196.39
01/07/2020	2862	Velocity Network, Inc.	Phone/IT/Fax	-791.89
01/07/2020	2863	Wells Fargo Financial Leasing	2020 January Copier Lease	-345.95
01/07/2020	2864	Benedictine Sisters of Erie, Inc.	2019-20 Anchor Building - pymt in full	-42,000.00
01/07/2020	2865	Erie Center for Arts & Technology	2019-20 Anchor Building - 1st Payment	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2866	Erie Masonic Temple Preservation Foundati	2019-20 Anchor Building - 1st payment	-14,000.00
01/07/2020	2867	Housing & Neighborhood Development Servic	2019-20 Anchor Building - 1st Payment	-10,000.00
01/07/2020	2868	Impact Corry	2019-20 Anchor Building - 1st Payment	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2869	Mercy Center for Women	2019-20 Anchor Building - 1st Payment	-80,000.00
01/07/2020	2870	Asbury Woods Partnership, Inc.	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-14,918.23
01/07/2020	2871	Bayfront Eastside Taskforce	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-20,000.00
01/07/2020	2872	Borough of Edinboro	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-25,000.00
01/07/2020	2873	Headwaters Natural Resource Center Trust	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-25,000.00
01/07/2020	2874	Humane Society of NWPA	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2875	Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-14,712.37
01/07/2020	2876	Lake Erie Region Conservancy	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-12,459.00
01/07/2020	2877	Platea Borough	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-2,500.00
01/07/2020	2878	Springfield Township	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-3,750.00
01/07/2020	2879	Washington Township	2019 CA - Parks Fields Trails	-16,500.00
01/07/2020	2880	Academy Neighborhood Association	2019 CA - Community Centers	-3,000.00
01/07/2020	2881	Booker T. Washington Center	2019 CA - Community Centers	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2882	Borough of Girard	2019 CA - Community Centers	-5,000.00
01/07/2020	2883	Borough of North East	2019 CA - Community Centers	-10,000.00
01/07/2020	2884	Community Health Net	2019 CA - Community Centers	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2885	Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation	2019 CA - Community Centers	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2886	Edinboro Legion Pool, Inc.	2019 CA - Community Centers	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2887	JFK Center	2019 CA - Community Centers	-2,954.00
01/07/2020	2888	Martin Luther King Center	2019 CA - Community Centers	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2889	Northwestern Community Youth Center	2019 CA - Community Centers	-3,000.00
01/07/2020	2890	Urban Erie Community Development Corp	2019 CA - Community Centers	-15,000.00
01/07/2020	2891	YMCA of Corry	2019 CA - Community Centers	-12,000.00
01/07/2020	2892	YMCA of Greater Erie	2019 CA - Community Centers	-11,515.00
01/08/2020	2893	Bayfront NATO, Inc.	MLK Dinner	-500.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Check Detail Report
January 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01/08/2020	2894	Penn State University - Knowledge Park	2020 January Rent	-1,452.31
01/09/2020	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	12/21/19 to 1/3/20 Payroll	-10,560.65
01/09/2020	EFT	Fidelity Investments	12/21/19 to 1/3/20 Retirement	-523.07
01/09/2020	2895	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	2019 December Legal	-665.00
01/09/2020	2896	Times Publishing Company	Yearly Announcements	-183.30
01/14/2020	2897	Greater Erie Community Action Committee	2019 Summer Jobs	-2,360.69
01/14/2020	2898	Ridge Policy Group	2019 January Government Relations	-4,000.00
01/15/2020	2899	Tom M. Maggio	4th Qtr 2019 Expense and Travel	-187.12
01/22/2020	2900	Erie Insurance	Business Cat., Work Comp., UltrFlex	-2,708.00
01/22/2020	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	1/4/20 to 1/17/20 Payroll	-7,890.31
01/22/2020	EFT	Fidelity Investments	1/4/20 to 1/17/20 Retirement	-525.65
01/22/2020	2901	ComDoc, Inc.	Copy Fees 4th Quarter	-380.52
01/24/2020	2902	Great Lakes Insurance Services Group	Public Officials Liability Insurance	-6,615.00

ERIEBANK



SCORECARD CASHBACK CURRENT BALANCE \$0.00 CASHBACK PAYOUT DATE 05/15/2020

Account Summary		
Billing Cycle		12/10/2019
Days In Billing Cycle		30
Previous Balance		\$213.91
Purchases	+	\$289.79
Cash	+	\$0.00
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00
Special	+	\$0.00
Credits	-	\$0.00
Payments	-	\$213.91
Other Charges	+	\$0.00
Finance Charges	+	\$0.00
NEW BALANCE		\$289.79

Account Inquiries

Call us at: (866) 317-0355
Lost or Stolen Card: (866) 317-0355

Go to WWW.MyCardStatement.com

Write us at PO BOX 30495, TAMPA, FL 33630-3495

Credit Summary	
Total Credit Line	\$40,000.00
Available Credit Line	\$39,710.21
Available Cash	\$39,710.21
Amount Over Credit Line	\$0.00
Amount Past Due	\$0.00
Disputed Amount	\$0.00

Payment Summary	
NEW BALANCE	\$289.79
MINIMUM PAYMENT	\$289.79
PAYMENT DUE DATE	01/04/2020

NOTE: Grace period to avoid a finance charge on purchases, pay entire new balance by payment due date. Finance charge accrues on cash advances until paid and will be billed on your next statement

Corporate Activity				
TOTAL CORPORATE ACTIVITY				\$213.91-
Trans Date	Post Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
12/03	12/03	1582879033	INTERNET PMT-THANK YOU	\$213.91-

Cardholder Account Summary				
TAMMI MICHALI ####-####-####-8023	Payments & Other Credits \$0.00	Purchases & Other Charges \$289.79	Cash Advances \$0.00	Total Activity \$289.79

Cardholder Account Detail					
Trans Date	Post Date	Plan Name	Reference Number	Description	Amount
11/11	11/12	PBUS01	24137489316001258281609	GIANT EAGLE #4038 ERIE PA	\$1.59 O.S.
11/18	11/19	PBUS01	24226389323400000864790	WAL-MART #3281 HARBORCREEK PA	\$13.72 O.S.
11/18	11/19	PBUS01	24137489323001285251931	GIANT EAGLE #4038 ERIE PA	\$1.59 O.S.
11/21	11/21	PBUS01	24892189325100275231209	STAMPS.COM 855-608-2877 CA	\$19.07 postage

PLEASE DETACH COUPON AND RETURN PAYMENT USING THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE - ALLOW UP TO 7 DAYS FOR RECEIPT

ERIEBANK
PO BOX 42
CLEARFIELD PA 16830-0042

Account Number
####-####-####-8643

Check box to indicate name/address change on back of this coupon

AMOUNT OF PAYMENT ENCLOSED

Closing Date	New Balance	Total Minimum Payment Due	Payment Due Date
12/10/19	\$289.79	\$289.79	01/04/20

BL ACCT 00100029-10000000
ERIE COUNTY GAMING
5340 FRYLING ROAD
SUITE 201
ERIE PA 16510-4672

e-Statement

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO:



VISA
PO BOX 4517
CAROL STREAM IL 60197-4517

Cardholder Account Detail Continued

Trans Date	Post Date	Plan Name	Reference Number	Description	Amount
11/21	11/22	PBUS01	24137469326001334794938	GIANT EAGLE #4038 ERIE PA	\$4.00 <i>mtg.</i>
11/23	11/25	PBUS01	24137469328500734197103	KOLDROCK WATER 814-452-0200 PA	\$7.25 <i>O.S.</i>
11/25	11/26	PBUS01	24493989330083008918828	AT&T*BILL PAYMENT 800-331-0500 TX	\$23.50 <i>phone/lr</i>
11/25	11/27	PBUS01	24789309330716705716815	ERIE TIMES NEWS CIRCULATI 814-8701600 PA	\$35.97 <i>subscr.</i>
12/02	12/03	PBUS01	24137469337001275354095	GIANT EAGLE #4038 ERIE PA	\$1.59 <i>O.S.</i>
12/03	12/04	PBUS01	24692189338100720828695	TOPS MARKETS #601 ERIE PA	\$49.81 <i>str. plan</i>
12/06	12/08	PBUS01	24431069340083704521243	AMAZON.COM*4Y1GY07R3 AMZN	\$81.70 <i>O.S.</i>
12/05	12/08	PBUS01	24445009340500423875279	AMZN.COM/BILL WA	
				USPS STAMPS ENDICIA 310-482-5800 CA	\$50.00 <i>postage</i>

Additional Information About Your Account

MANAGE YOUR CARD ACCOUNT ONLINE. IT'S FREE! IT'S EASY! SIMPLY GO TO WWW.MYCARDSTATEMENT.COM AND ENROLL IN OUR ONLINE SERVICE. YOU CAN REVIEW ACCOUNT INFORMATION, TRACK SPENDING, SET ALERT NOTIFICATIONS, DOWNLOAD FILES, AND MUCH MORE. MANAGING YOUR ACCOUNT IS FAST, SECURE AND EASY WITH MYCARDSTATEMENT. ENROLL TODAY!

ScoreCard CashBack Earnings as of 12/09/2019

SCORECARD	Beginning Balance	Current Earned	CashBack Adjusted	Ending Balance	CashBack Payout Date
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	05/15/2020

Finance Charge Summary / Plan Level Information

Plan Name	Plan Description	FCM ¹	Average Daily Balance	Periodic Rate *	Corresponding APR	Finance Charges	Effective APR Fees **	Effective APR	Ending Balance
Purchases									
PBUS01 001	PURCHASE	E	\$0.00	0.72916%(M)	8.7500%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$289.79
Cash									
CBUS01 001	CASH	G	\$0.00	0.72916%(M)	8.7500%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$0.00
* Periodic Rate (M)=Monthly (D)=Daily							Days In Billing Cycle: 30		
** Includes cash advance and foreign currency fees							APR = Annual Percentage Rate		
¹ FCM = Finance Charge Method									
(V) = Variable Rate If you have a variable rate account the periodic rate and Annual Percentage Rate (APR) may vary.									



E·C·G·R·A
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT
FOR
FEBRUARY
2020**





January 30, 2020

James Sparber
Finance Director
Erie County Courthouse
140 W 6th Street, Room 111
Erie, PA 16501-1011

Dear Mr. Sparber:

In accordance with the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act 42 of 2017, the Department is required to distribute quarterly the Local Share Assessment collected for slots to the municipalities in which a licensed gaming entity is located. This distribution is based on the local share assessment amount collected plus the slot machine license operation fee amount collected over Summit Township's budget limitation.

An ACH for the fourth quarter of 2019 payment in the amount of \$3,022,671.63 should be deposited in your bank account within 3 - 5 business days. This payment includes the slots local share assessment of \$522,671.63 and the slot machine license operation fee of \$2,500,000.00. Any reductions to the Gross Terminal Revenue (GTR) for promotional items is the result of the Gaming Bulletin 2015-01 and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's April 28, 2014 decision in Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment Incorporated v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Revenue (90 A.3d 699 (Pa. 2014)).

If you have any questions, please contact me at 717-346-4004.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Heckert, Gaming Division Chief
Bureau of Fiscal Management

Erie County 067-021010-042100
\$3,022,671.63 x .55 = \$1,662,469.40

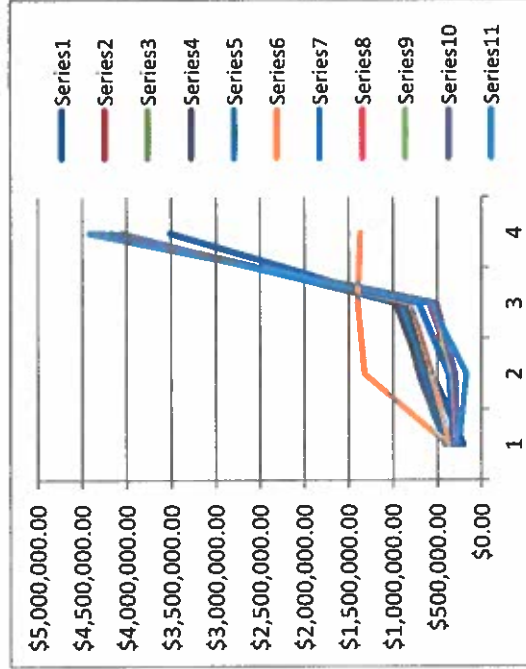
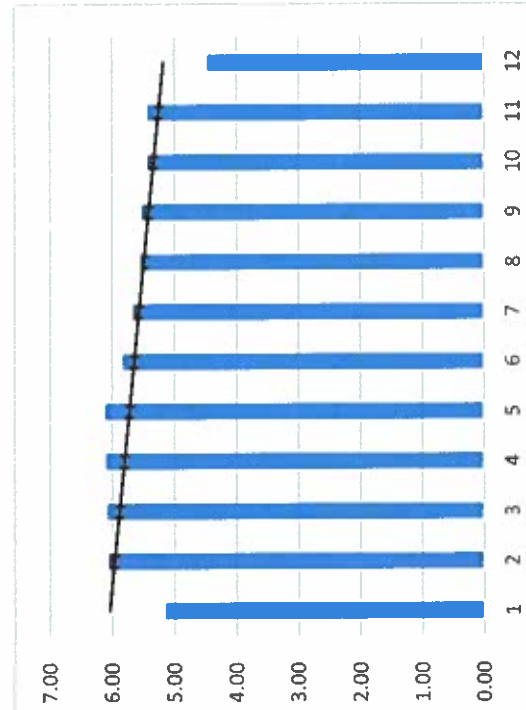
ECGRA 067-021050-042100
\$3,022,671.63 x .45 = \$1,360,202.23



**Revenue Dashboard
by Quarter
2007 - 2018 YTD**



Year	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	Total
2007	201,418.07	562,082.72	867,508.44	3,507,952.54	5,138,961.77
2008	366,211.37	672,936.98	941,125.00	4,063,561.53	6,043,834.88
2009	407,507.87	701,525.21	898,525.69	4,060,932.24	6,068,491.01
2010	385,476.85	665,559.96	962,909.94	4,073,449.24	6,087,395.99
2011	393,440.61	636,302.96	903,421.25	4,166,222.13	6,099,386.95
2012	356,241.99	554,752.50	794,443.73	4,114,583.35	5,820,021.57
2013	318,869.71	374,557.04	701,478.54	4,261,932.00	5,656,837.29
2014	281,934.65	315,628.24	584,126.03	4,350,692.65	5,532,381.57
2015	264,934.67	308,566.19	541,749.43	4,390,710.21	5,505,960.50
2016	271,003.84	300,719.61	507,757.83	4,332,642.04	5,412,123.32
2017	254,570.93	172,041.71	578,894.78	4,412,495.64	5,418,003.06
2018	375,769.51	1,317,928.22	1,394,780.33	1,362,089.40	4,450,567.46
2019	373,319.64	1,314,153.08	1,391,141.81	1,360,202.23	4,438,816.76
	4,250,699.71	7,896,754.42	11,067,862.80	48,457,465.20	71,672,782.13







Ridge Policy Group Activity

ECGRA Jan 15 – Feb 15 Report

Relevant Activity

- RPG has been working directly with the North East Borough to identify funding opportunities for their Sustain NE concept. This has included:
 - Confirming and attending the Feb 6th as a meeting date for a walking tour of North East with Sen Laughlin and Rep Sonney to review RACP project
 - Scheduling a call with PennDOT to have an initial discussion of gateway projects in North East borough
 - Having bi-weekly calls set up to help support their activities
- On January 24, held a call with Ryan Bookhamer, STEM & Gifted Administrator for Fairview School District about potential funding opportunities to support his activities
- On February 7, held a call with Perry to discuss potential research funding for algae bloom build up
- Reviewing potential infrastructure implications in relation to Congress working on an infrastructure package (ongoing project)
- We continue to monitor progress of RACP authorization legislation.

Grant/ Funding & Legislative Opportunities

Algae Bloom

- The House voted on The Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Reauthorization (GLRI) bill. We've talked about the GLRI as a potential source of funding for algae bloom support in Erie in the past, so reauthorization may lead to important additional funding. Through the initiative, a task force headed by the Environmental Protection Agency coordinates efforts of federal agencies and nonfederal partners to address pollution, invasive species, and other restoration needs in the region. The initiative is authorized to receive \$300 million annually through fiscal 2021 under current law. Under the bill, its authorization would be \$375 million in fiscal 2022, increasing incrementally to \$475 million in fiscal 2026.

ARC POWER 2020

What is **POWER**?

POWER (Partnerships for Opportunity and Workforce and Economic Revitalization) is a congressionally funded initiative that makes federal resources available to help communities and

regions that have been affected by job losses in coal mining, coal power plant operations, and coal-related supply chain industries due to the changing economics of America's energy production.

POWER 2020

ARC is accepting applications in response to the [POWER 2020 Request for Proposals \(RFP\)](#). Strong POWER projects are **regional, strategic, and transformational** in their approach to the **economic revitalization** of coal-impacted communities.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are accepted via the [POWER 2020 Application Portal](#). Application guidance and requirements are outlined in the [POWER 2020 RFP](#).

Important Dates

- **February 28, 2020, 5:00pm (ET):** POWER 2020 Letter of Intent Submission deadline (Submit to power@arc.gov)
- **March 27, 2020, 5:00pm (ET):** POWER 2020 Final Applications deadline (Submit to [POWER Portal](#))





Funding Opportunities	Awards
Erie School District/Mercyhurst University – PAsmart Award	\$ 500,000
Greater Erie Community Action Committee – pre-apprenticeship program	\$ 49,995
ARC Grant – Investing in Appalachia’s Future: ARC 5-year Strategic Plan	\$ 200,000
EDA – Regional Innovation Strategies Assistance to Coal Communities Program	\$ 1,000,000
Millcreek School District Foundation – tax credit	\$ 20,000
City of Erie/Erie Innovation District (ARC POWER grant)	\$ 500,000
Erie Innovation District (EDA grant)	\$ 2,000,000
TOTAL:	\$ 4,269,995





BRIDGEWAY CAPITAL

Connect Opportunity with Capital

PITTSBURGH

707 Grant Street
Suite 1920
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
T 412.201.2450
F 412.201.2451

ERIE

1001 State Street
Suite 1400
Erie, PA 16501
T 814.461.1172
F 814.461.1160

UNIONTOWN

2 West Main Street
Suite 135
Uniontown, PA 15401
T 724.425.0330
F 724.425.0332

February 5, 2020

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

Bridgeway Capital is pleased to provide this Performance Report on the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority's 2018 Mission Related Investment of \$2.5 million for the Inclusive Erie Fund. To complement ECGRA's funding, which is being directed to minority-owned businesses in Erie County, Bridgeway has committed an additional \$2.5 million in capital from other sources to finance non-minority-owned businesses.

Since receiving funding in October 2018 and formally launching the program on Dec. 3, Bridgeway has deployed a total of \$976,000 to 8 small businesses operating in Erie County. Program accomplishments to date include the following:

- \$296,000 has been lent to 5 African-American-owned businesses.
- \$560,000 has been lent to 2 non-minority-owned business.
- \$120,000 has been lent to a Syrian immigrant.
- 6 of the 7 funded companies are located in The City of Erie and operate in low- to moderate-income areas; the other company, 1 Tagteam Logistics, is located in McKean, a city in Erie County.
- To date, the Inclusive Erie Fund has supported the creation of 8 new full-time jobs.

During this reporting period, Bridgeway made a \$120,000 growth loan to Sham Middle Eastern Market, located on E. 12th St. Sham specializes in halal meats, fresh produce, and ethnic foodstuffs and serves Erie's growing Syrian and Middle Eastern population. The working capital loan will allow the store's owner to more efficiently and competitively stock his store. Currently, he makes multiple trips each week to Detroit to source products. The loan will allow him to purchase a larger van and transport a greater volume of product with each trip.

A \$10,000 start-up loan will support the launch of 1Tagteam Logistics, a woman- and African American-owned general freight broker services company. The owner, Martina Johnson, will run the company together with her husband, Willie, who has 19 years of experience in the trucking industry. Willie gained a vast knowledge of shipping and logistics while serving in the U.S. Army on active duty.

Bridgeway's Inclusive Erie Fund is complemented by the Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator (EMOBA). EMOBA is designed to provide developing businesses a strong foundation for successful business growth. Since its start six months ago, EMOBA has delivered four business education workshops and three networking events to a cohort of six minority businesses. Each three-hour

workshop focuses on a discrete business topic designed to prepare participants to launch and/or grow their businesses. In the weeks between sessions, program participants receive one-on-one tailored assistance focused on business planning and strategy development. These sessions are led by Bridgeway's Entrepreneurship Hub Manager, Talpha Harris, who is leading EMOBA, as well as other community professionals and partner organizations. Through the program, participants gain access to strategic consulting, legal and accounting assistance, and the development of marketing collateral. Bridgeway's Inclusive Erie Fund is complemented by the Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator (EMOBA). The EMOBA is designed to provide developing businesses a strong foundation for successful business growth.

Bridgeway continues to build a pipeline of potential Inclusive Erie Fund loans, both those that will be backed by ECGRA funding and those that will require leveraged sources of capital.

Bridgeway thanks ECGRA for its continued support of our efforts to stimulate economic opportunity and equitable development in Erie County. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'TJ Bogdewic', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

TJ Bogdewic
President and CEO

Bridgeway Capital, February 2020 Performance Report - Inclusive Erie Fund

Business	Loan Amount	Total Project Cost	Target Market	New Jobs Projected	Startup	Minority-owned	Woman-owned	Funding Source	Funding Source Terms
Johnson Real Estate Properties	\$60,000	\$66,170	Yes	Yes	0	No	Yes	No ECGRA - MRI	Medium-term loan
Crockett Apartment Rentals	\$175,000	\$175,000	Yes	Yes	0	No	Yes	No ECGRA - MRI	Medium-term loan
Autumn's Beauty Supplies	\$15,000	\$15,000	Yes	Yes	0	No	Yes	Yes ECGRA - MRI	Medium-term loan
Mark Anthony Concrete	\$500,000	\$500,000	Yes	Yes	3	No	No	No Bridgeway	Medium-term loan
Sham Middle Eastern Market	\$120,000	\$120,000	Yes	Yes	1	No	Yes	No ECGRA - MRI	Medium-term loan
Valor Labz	\$60,000	\$68,500	Yes	Yes	4	Yes	No	No Bridgeway	Medium-term loan
1 Tagteam Logistics	\$10,000	\$11,500	Yes	Yes	0	Yes	Yes	Yes ECGRA - MRI	Medium-term loan
Parris Dawson	\$36,000	\$36,000	Yes	Yes	0	No	Yes	No ECGRA - MRI	Long-term loan

Total Lending	\$976,000
Lending in Target Market (by #)	100%
Lending in Target Market (by \$)	100%
New Jobs Projected	8
ECGRA Funds Used	\$416,000
Funds Leveraged - Internal Bridgeway level	\$560,000
Internal Leverage Ratio (Outside funds to ECGRA funds)	1.3
Funds Leveraged - External, project level	\$992,170
External Leverage Ratio (Outside funds to Bridgeway funds)	1.0

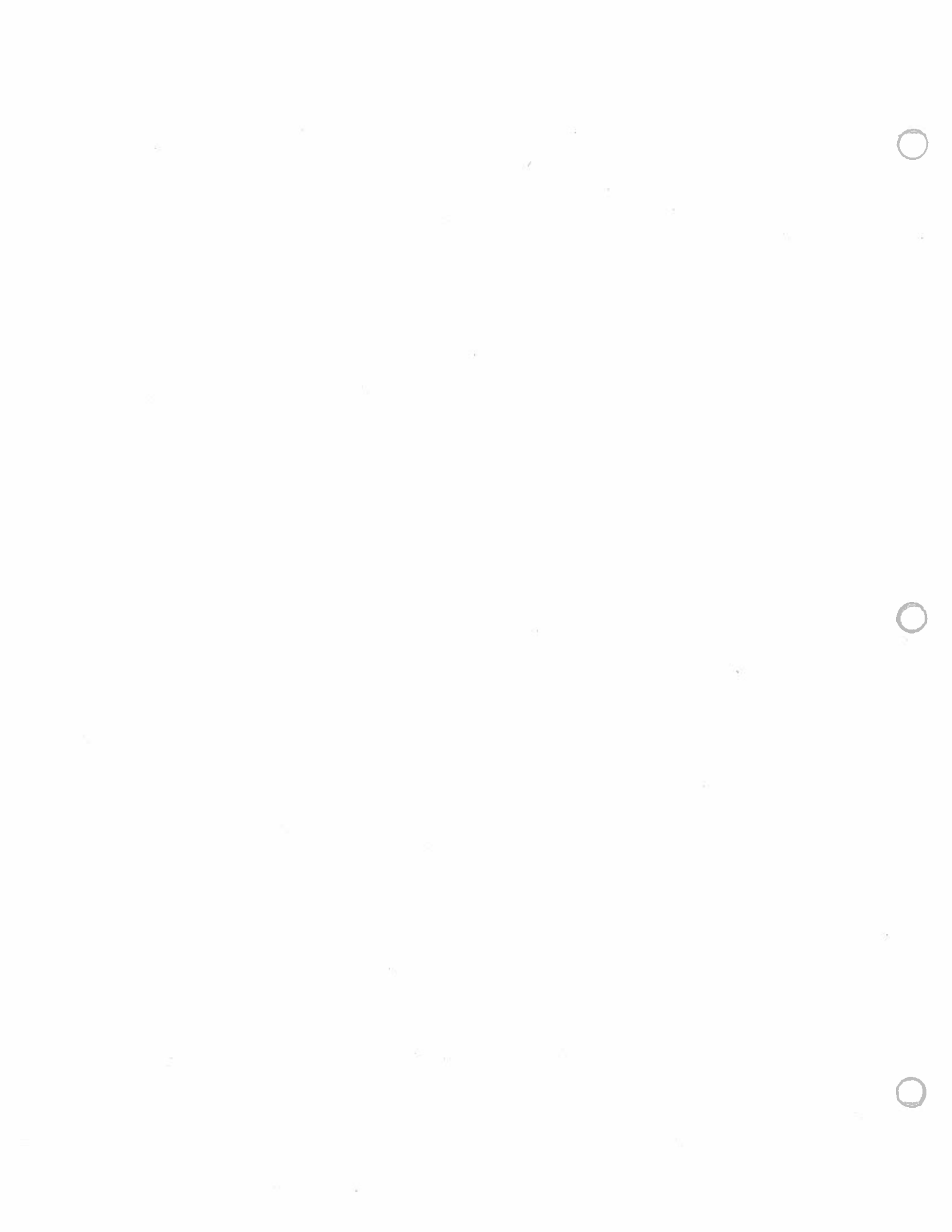


**Senator Laughlin
Municipal Leaders Grant & Resource Workshop**

The Tom Ridge Environmental Center
301 Peninsula Drive, Erie, PA 16505
Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Schedule

- 8:30-9:00** **Registration & Continental Breakfast**
- 9:00-9:15** **Welcome and Introductions by Senator Dan Laughlin**
- 9:15-10:15** **PA Senate Grants Team**
 Joe Marsicano, Funding & Resource Specialist
- Community & Economic Development**
 Kim Thomas, Regional Representative
 Kim Bracey, Executive Director
 Governor's Center for Local Government Services
- PENNVEST**
 David Henning, Project Manager
- 10:15-10:30** **Break**
- 10:30 – 11:30** **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**
 Erin Wiley Moyers, Regional Advisor
- Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**
 Dr. Perry Wood, Executive Director
- General Services**
 Ken Hess, Deputy Secretary
- Erie County Redevelopment Authority**
 Tina Mengine, CEO
- 11:30-12:00** **Meet the Presenters**





COUNTY OF ERIE

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Kathy Dahlkemper,
County Executive

January 21, 2020

Dale Barney
1205 Lynn Street
Erie, PA 16503

Dear Mr. Barney,

Thank you for your willingness to continue to serve on the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. Upon the recommendation of County Councilman André Horton and myself, your reappointment to the Authority was approved by Erie County Council on January 21, 2020. This five-year term will expire on December 31, 2024.

The County of Erie congratulates you and extends its appreciation for your willingness to serve. Please accept my gratitude and high regard for the time and service you provide.

Sincerely,

Kathy Dahlkemper

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy Dahlkemper", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

cc: Douglas Smith, Clerk
Perry Wood, Executive Director, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
File





E.C.G.R.A.
ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Erie Lead Asset Award

AGENDA

Perry Wood
Senator Dan Laughlin
Representative Ryan Bizzaro
County Councilman Andre Horton
Mayor Joe Schember
James Sherrod

Background/Emcee
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks/Photo Op

CHECK PRESENTATION:
Individual Presentations (amounts attached)
MEMO: Community Centers

Media Q & A





NEWS*NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS*****

ECGRA Community Asset Grants Enhance Local Community Centers

CONTACT: Kate Philips
philips@parkerphilips.com
215.850.4647 | mobile

ERIE, PA (January 17, 2020) Marking a continued investment of local share gaming funds, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) Community Assets Grant Program awarded grants today to 13 community centers from across Erie County, as part of its \$1 million Arts, Culture and Heritage project area.

State Senator Dan Laughlin, State Representative Ryan Bizzaro, County Council Member Andre Horton, and City of Erie Mayor Joe Schember joined ECGRA officials this morning at the MLK Center to award **\$137,469** to 13 local community centers from across the region.

“By focusing on impact investing, ECGRA ensures that our local share gaming revenue is going to work for families across Erie County.” **said State Senator Dan Laughlin, PA-49.** “ECGRA’s continued investment in neighborhoods is moving the needle when it comes to making Erie County the best place to live, work and play,”

“Community Centers offer safe and welcoming place for children to engage in disciplined physical activity and healthy relationships,” **said State Representative Ryan Bizzaro, PA-3.** “ECGRA’s approach to community and economic development is continually strengthening our Erie County economy, while creating neighborhoods that families want to call home.”

“ECGRA is investing in Erie County at the street level and C-suite level—its impact investing model is making a difference across Erie County,” **said Erie County Councilperson, Andre Horton,**

District-2. “When the youth of our communities have the opportunity to engage with positive discipline and strong adult role models, their potential is limitless.”

“I want to give two thank-yous,” said **City of Erie Mayor, Joe Sember**. “The first goes to the County Officials and the Erie County Gaming and Revenue Authority for making these funds available to help Erie County Community Centers; the second thank-you is to the 13 Community Centers receiving awards today. Your great work builds opportunity, restores hope, and helps transform Erie.”

“A community asset is just that; a well-maintained asset that enhances the health and vibrancy of our Erie County communities,” said **Perry Wood, Executive Director, ECGRA**. “The success and the health of neighborhoods depend on focused investment in areas that are proven to improve the economic stability of a region. Investing in Parks, Fields & Trails, as well as Community Centers will provide a new level of support for local community assets that are ready for fresh investment.”

To date, ECGRA has invested \$1.085 million in the Community Asset Grant Program, supporting capital improvements and programming which provide social, educational, cultural, health, recreation, and/or economic benefits to residents of Erie County.

Community Center Grants will support capital improvements, programming, and equipment for publicly accessible community centers. A community center is a neighborhood or community hub whose primary focus is social, educational, cultural, and/or recreational activities serving a particular segment of the community such as children or senior citizens.

A complete list of grants awarded is below.

COMMUNITY CENTERS		
Organization	Project	Amount Awarded
Academy Neighborhood Association	Academy Neighborhood: Tool Lending Library	\$3,000.00
Booker T. Washington Center	The Big Assist Program	\$15,000.00
Borough of Girard	Girard Borough Social Hall	\$5,000.00
Borough of North East	North East Senior Center 2020	\$10,000.00
Community Health Net	Vision for 30 More Years	\$15,000.00
Eagle's Nest Leadership Corporation	Eagle's Nest After-School Program	\$15,000.00
Edinboro Legion Pool, Inc.	Edinboro Legion Pool Improvement Project - A Community Asset	\$15,000.00
John F. Kennedy Center	JFK Floor Care	\$2,954.00
Martin Luther King Center	Family Matter - Workforce Development and self-sustainability	\$15,000.00
Northwestern Community Youth Center	Equipment Upgrade	\$3,000.00

Urban Erie Community Development Corporation	UECDC Housing Assistance Program	\$15,000.00
YMCA of Corry	Raise the Roof Campaign	\$12,000.00
YMCA of Greater Erie	YMCA Community Learning Center Teaching Kitchenette	\$11,515.00
TOTAL Awarded		\$137,469.00

###



Erie Center for Arts & Technology
Meeting Agenda
1/28/2020
3:30pm

Welcome and introductions

Brief overview of the deal structure

Discussion with attorneys from Dickinson Wright:

- Representation of the four lending entities
- Documentation
 - Intercreditor agreement
 - Subordination agreement
- Requirements prior to closing
- Timeframe
- Closing schedule – simultaneous with NM closing?

Meeting with lending entities:

- Project update from Daria
- Further clarification on deal diagram if needed
- Updates on approval process

Next steps





Parks, Fields & Trails

AGENDA

Perry Wood
Representative Ryan Bizzaro
County Councilman Andre Horton
County Councilman Carl Anderson
Nichole Bawol

Background/Emcee
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks
Brief Remarks/Photo Op

CHECK PRESENTATION:
Individual Presentations (amounts attached)
MEMO: Parks, Fields & Trails

Media Q & A





NEWS*NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS***NEWS*****

ECGRA Community Asset Grants Will Enhance Local Parks, Fields & Trails

CONTACT: Kate Philips
philips@parkerphilips.com
215.850.4647 | mobile

ERIE, PA (January 31, 2020) Marking a continued investment of local share gaming funds, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) Parks, Fields & Trails Grant Program awarded grants today to ten local parks, fields and trails organizations from across Erie County.

State Representative Ryan Bizzaro, County Council Members Andre Horton, Carl Anderson, Scott Rastatter, and Brian Shenk joined ECGRA officials this morning at the Humane Society of NWPB to award \$149,839 to successful applicants supporting new Parks, Fields & Trails projects.

"We are incredibly grateful for the support from ECGRA in awarding our organization funds from the Parks, Fields & Trails grant," said Humane Society of NWPB Executive Director Nicole Bawol. "Being awarded this grant helps us to achieve our vision of enhancing the Erie Humane Society's property with new updated parks and walking trails for community members and their pets to enjoy!"

"My congratulations to all the recipients receiving funding this round," said State Rep. Ryan Bizzaro PA-3. "I am excited to see several organizations striving to improve our communities, our neighborhoods and our livelihood through ECGRA's Parks, Fields & Trails grants. These community assets are a source of civic pride and heritage in Erie and will help preserve our local culture and livelihood for all to benefit and enjoy."

“One of my priorities is to focus on Erie County’s network of recreational assets and their connections to the community,” said Erie County Executive Kathy Dahlkemper. “I’m grateful for ECGRA’s commitment to investing in impactful projects that benefit Erie County.”

“Developing our communities helps make Erie County a better place to live, work, and play,” said **Erie County Council Chair, Andre Horton, District-2**. “ECGRA has a keen focus on strategic investment that supports economic and neighborhood growth. These dollars are working from the ground up, and I’m proud of the work their doing to stimulate the economy and elevate the quality of life in Erie County.”

“Community development happens successfully when the public and civic sectors work together to strengthen the social fabric of the community,” said **Perry Wood, Executive Director, ECGRA**. “This synergy generates investment and improves the quality of life for residents. You must look no further than Erie County’s beautiful parks, fields and trails to understand the value of investing in their maintenance and providing opportunity to expand them.”

To date, ECGRA has invested \$2.325 million in the Community Asset Grant Program, supporting capital improvements and programming which provide social, educational, cultural, health, recreation, and/or economic benefits to residents of Erie County.

The new **Parks, Fields & Trails Grants** will provide funding for capital projects to create, protect, or improve publicly accessible parks, athletic fields, and trails throughout Erie County. Funding can also be used to increase or improve access to recreational facilities.

A complete list of grants awarded is below.

PARKS, FIELDS, & TRAILS		
Organization	Project	Amount Awarded
Asbury Woods	Meadow Trail Restoration	\$14,918.23
Bayfront Eastside Taskforce	The Three Forts of Presque Isle and Interpretive Center	\$20,000.00
Borough of Edinboro	Thompson Park Renewal	\$25,000.00
Headwaters NRC Trust	Headwaters Park Nature Play Area	\$25,000.00
Humane Society of NWPA	Erie Humane Society's "Bark Park & Wagging Trails" Project	\$15,000.00
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier	2020 LEAF Pathways Project	\$14,712.37
Lake Erie Region Conservancy	West Road Access Area Trail Improvement	\$12,459.00
Platea Borough	Platea Borough Park Improvement Project	\$2,500.00

Springfield Township	Bicentennial Park Improvements	\$3,750.00
Washington Township	Inspiration Park Trail Project	\$16,500.00
TOTAL Requested		\$149,839.60

###



Evaluation of 2019 Erie Summer Jobs and More Program

Submitted to:
Georgia Del Freo
Vice President/Operations
Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC)
18 West Ninth Street
Erie, PA 16501
Ph: 814/459-4581 ext. 402 - Fax: 814/456-0161
Email: gdelfreo@gecac.org - www.gecac.org

Submitted by:
KeyStone Research Corporation
3823 West 12th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16505-3301
Ph: 814/836-9295 - Fax: 814/836-9615
Email: info@ksrc.biz - www.ksrc.biz

December 23, 2019





February 5, 2020

Administrative Services

Daniel S. Snow, M.D. Health Center
1202 State Street
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 454-4530

Mr. Perry Wood
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Medical Services

Daniel S. Snow, M.D. Health Center
1202 State Street
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 455-7222

Dear Mr. Wood,

Harborcreek Health Center
4401 Iroquois Avenue
Erie, PA 16511
(814) 464-0509

I would like to thank you for your very generous donation of \$15,000 (fifteen thousand dollars) on behalf of our request for *Vision for 30 More Years*. Community Health Net is a public charity recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3).

Girard School-Based Health Center
1135 Lake Street, Suite 2
Girard, PA 16417-1063
(814) 774-3155

Your contribution will be utilized to purchase new equipment for general and advanced vision care which will enable us to provide more advanced diagnosis, care and patient education to all patients regardless of their ability pay.

Dental Services

Dr. Nicholas Hosu Dental
Daniel S. Snow, M.D. Health Center
1202 State Street
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 452-4262

By partnering with individuals like you, we will continue to make a lasting and positive difference in the overall health of the Erie community, now and for many years to come. It is our Mission at Community Health Net, "To improve the quality of life in our region, by providing professional healthcare services, with compassion, respect and dignity to all."

Community Health Net Dental
1611 Peach Street, Suite 465
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 456-8548

We are grateful for your generosity and commitment to our organization and mission.

John E. Horan Garden Apartments
Dental Office
2120 East 10th Street
Erie, PA 16511
(814) 464-0307

Thank you and Best Regards,



Craig Ulmer
Chief Executive Officer

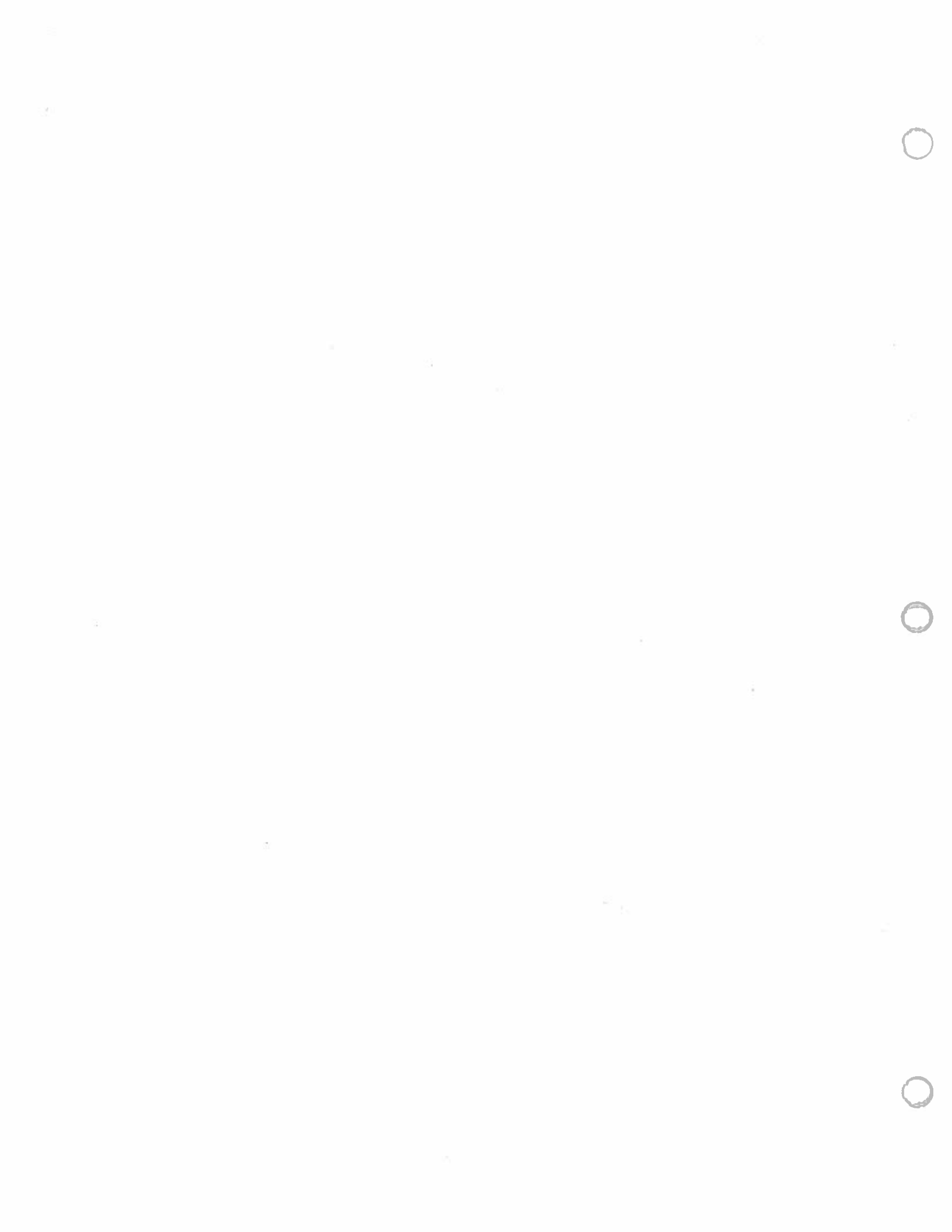
Pharmacy Services

Community Health Net Pharmacy
Daniel S. Snow, M.D. Health Center
1202 State Street
Erie, PA 16501
(814) 464-9520

www.community-healthnet.com

The official registration and financial information of Community Health Net may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement. Please also note that no goods or services were received in exchange for this donation.







January 14, 2020

Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite #201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

Thank you for the generous \$42,000 Anchor Building Program grant award received on 1/13/2020. Your gift will be applied to the expense of the installation of a new cast iron steam boiler at the St. Benedict Community Center, a ministry of the Benedictine Sisters of Erie.

The center aims to provide a recreational facility inclusive of peoples of all races and challenges. It provides opportunities for teambuilding and mentoring, friendship and hope to Erie's inner-city youth.

On behalf of all the sisters, my deepest thanks to you, you're staff and the Board of Directors for all you have done for the Benedictine Sisters of Erie and the Erie community.

Together we can strive to build a world of peace, justice, equality, and community where all are called *friend*.

The sisters and I hold you close in our daily prayers and give thanks for your generosity and friendship!

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sister Anne".

Sister Anne Wambach, OSB
Prioress
Benedictine Sisters of Erie

A handwritten note in cursive script that reads "We are grateful for your generous support." The text is written in a fluid, elegant cursive style.

Federal tax laws require us to state that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this gift.

Enclosure
cc: Tom Maggio

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January 16, 2020

Mr. Perry Wood, Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

RE: ECGRA Community Assets Grant

Dear Mr. Wood,

On behalf of the Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier (LEAF), I want to thank the you and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) for funding support for our grant application for the ECGRA Community Assets: Parks, Fields and Trails program. The funds will be used for path refurbishment/expansion in Frontier Park in the City of Erie. This grant will allow LEAF to expand to new areas of the park as well as improve accessibility of the gravel paths to many groups who find it difficult to utilize because of their eroded and deteriorated condition.

We appreciate ECGRA's support for this project which will improve accessibility to members of our community and for all future visitors of the park and LEAF.

Sincerely,

Vernon L. Peterson
Executive Director
Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier

Check Date: 1/7/2020

Check Amount: \$14,712.37





January 21, 2020

ECGRA
Perry Wood
5340 Fryling Rd Ste 201
Erie, PA 16510-4672

Dear Perry,



The weather has changed, and our residents are truly *"Walkin' in a Winter Wonderland"*. A special thank you is in order for your gift of **\$80,000.00** for the Anchor Building grant. Our homeless women and children will certainly have warm heads and hearts this holiday season.

As you may be aware, we are beginning to work on the former Holy Rosary School building to expand our services and help many more families. Keep an eye on our Facebook page as this vital project moves forward!

We are truly grateful to you for your support. Together we can do many great things for families right here in Erie. On behalf of the women, children and staff of the Mercy Center – Thank You!

We hope you had a joyous holiday season and will experience God's blessings as we begin a brand-new year.

Kindly,

Jennie

Jennie Hagerty
Executive Director

In accordance with section 170(f)(8) of the Internal Revenue Code, I certify that Mercy Center for Women is a 501(c)3 charitable organization to which contributions are tax deductible. Since no goods or services were given in exchange for your gift, the entire amount is tax deductible. This letter serves as documentation of your gift and is necessary for your income tax records.

*Dear Perry,
This awarded grant is changing lives as the Mercy Center for Women moves forward into permanent housing. We are grateful to you and your team for believing in our mission to serve homeless women and children in the community. Thank you for your generosity and being the voice of support to those we serve.*







February 10, 2020

Dr. Perry Wood
Executive Director
Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Dr. Wood:

I am writing to thank you and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority Board of Directors for ECGRA's generous support of Our West Bayfront's 404-06 West 8th Street Rehabilitation Project through your Anchor Buildings grant program. We received the second and final installment of the grant funds for this project on February 4, 2020.

Thanks to ECGRA's significant support for this project, we have made considerable progress with this project, and leveraged additional funds to broaden its reach. The first phase of renovation of the historic building at 404-06 West 8th St has been progressing smoothly since November 2019 and will finish later this spring. We are seeking funding from other sources to complete the rehabilitation of this building.

Thanks to another major grant from ECGRA through the Mission Main Streets program, we are broadening this initiative to include the revitalization of the West 8th Street Commercial Corridor. The "Re-Store West 8th Street" initiative supports neighborhood commercial activity along West 8th Street, and work is already underway with renovations at several properties. We are excited to see renewed private-sector interest in the corridor with the recent sale of two important properties in this district.

If you or the board is interested in a tour of any of the projects we have been able to undertake with ECGRA's support, I am happy to arrange one. On behalf of the thousands of residents who call the West Bayfront home, we are grateful for your leadership and creative vision which is transforming Erie block by block.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anna Frantz', is located below the 'Respectfully,' text.

Anna Frantz
Executive Director

cc: Tom Maggio





**FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT
FOR HEALTHY LIVING
FOR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

December 31, 2019

**Perry Wood, Executive Director
ECGRA
5340 Fryling Road, Suite 201
Erie, PA 16510**

Dear Perry, Tom and Board of Directors:

On behalf of the members, volunteers, and staff of the YMCA of Corry, I want to thank you for the generous gift of \$12,000 from ECGRA for the Raise the Roof Capital Campaign. We currently are closing in on \$100,000 on hand. The campaign includes the roof replacement, maintenance reserve, and annual support. Your grant will be applied as directed towards the purchase of 2 AC units for the fitness center. The funds will be placed in the maintenance reserve account and withdrawn upon purchase of the units.

Once again, thank you for the generous gift. It truly means so much too so many!

**Steve Redrup, CEO
YMCA of Corry**

**YMCA OF CORRY
906 North Center Street
P 814 664 7757 F 814 665 6833**



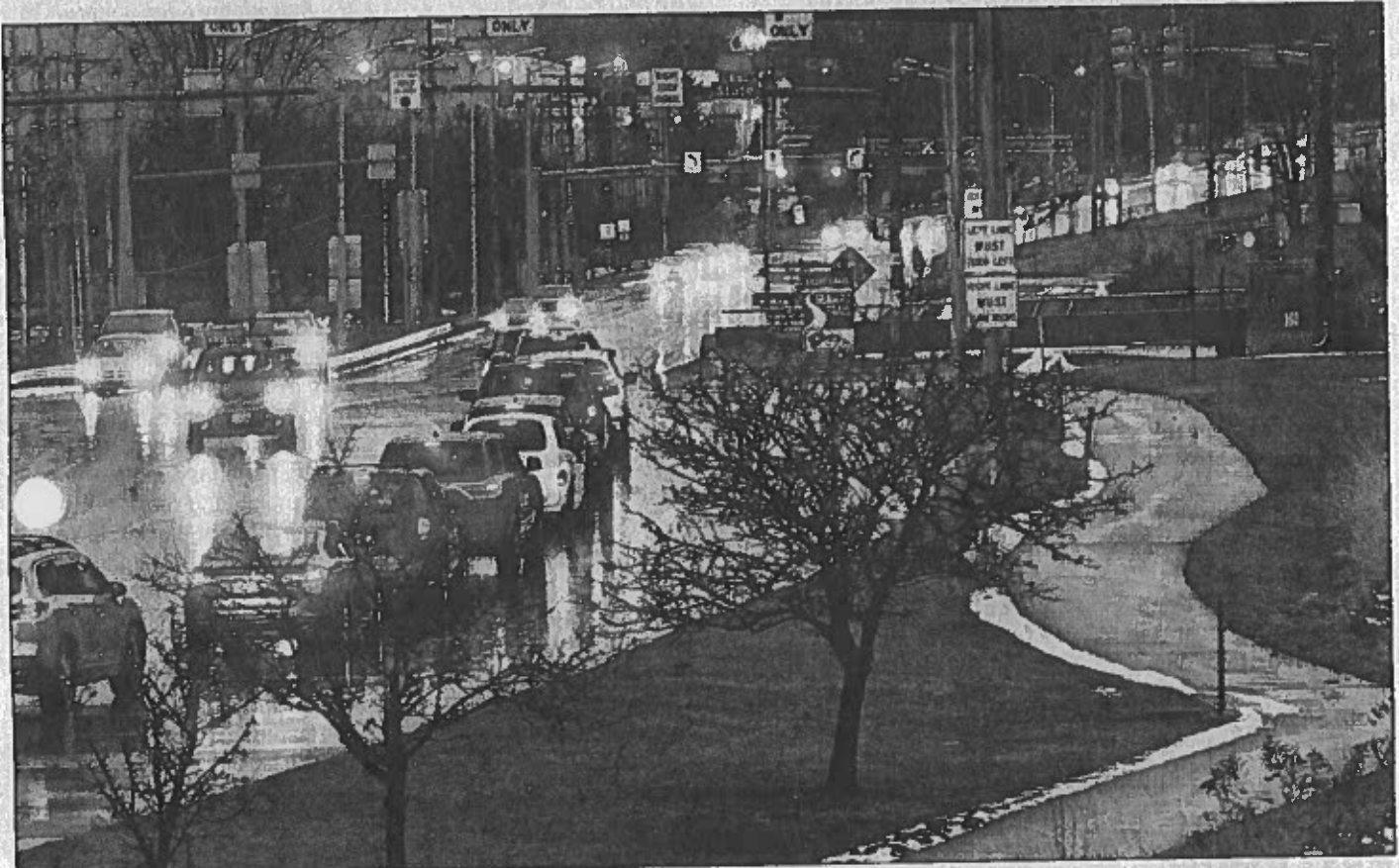
Erie Times-News

Thursday, January 30, 2020

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Designing connections



Evening traffic fills the Bayfront Parkway on Friday, looking east, near the intersection with State Street in Erie. On Thursday evening, students and urban designers will present their ideas on how to define and connect existing walkways and to incorporate "iconic" pedestrian bridges over the parkway. [GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS]

Urban designers will present new ideas to reconnect, define Erie's bayfront, downtown

By Valerie Myers
Vmyers@timesnews.com

A new plan to connect Erie's downtown and bayfront and to dress up public areas on both sides of the Bayfront Parkway will be presented to the public at the Jefferson Educational Society on Thursday

Want to know more?

What: "Reconnecting the Bayfront" program
Where: Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.
When: Thursday, 7 p.m.
Admission: Free
To register: Visit www.jeserie.org or call 459-8000
To read the design report: Visit www.jeserie.org/reports

evening.
The "Reconnecting the Bayfront" plan is by

students from Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design and professional designers from the university's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative. The plan proposes ways to define and connect existing walkways and incorporate "iconic" pedestrian bridges over the parkway.

The study also proposes redesigning Dobbins Landing as a park-like gathering space with grass, trees and

maybe a piazza with sculpture or fountain.

"We really responded to the fact that the community feels such a compelling need to get people to the waterfront, but once they're there, what happens? What is the gathering place? There's Liberty Park on the west side, but Dobbins Landing seems like an obvious place to bring people, and with a few adjustments,

See DESIGN, A5



DESIGN

Tom Page A1

"You really highlight that," said Kristen Zeiber, project manager and urban designer with Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative.

Roundabouts proposed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to ease traffic congestion at Sassafras and Holland streets could be designed as miniature parks inside the traffic circles, according to designers.

Public art, consistent lighting and plantings could help define existing walkways and visually connect the waterfront and downtown, designers said.

"We were really surprised by just how much public access there is along the bayfront, including the Bayfront Promenade and Bikeway path," Zeiber said.

"One conclusion that we came to is that this is not all about lack of public access. It's also about a lack of public perception of what's already along the bayfront and coming up with ways to make it feel more public, more connected, more exciting and navigable."

Gaps in the walkways should be addressed by property owners and PennDOT, designers said.

"There are some pieces of the network missing, including the Hamot where the parkway is completely cut off because of the loading dock there," Zeiber said.

The "Reconnecting the Bayfront" plan also proposes new landscaping, lighting and signs to improve



One proposal by student designers at Kent State University's College of Architecture and Environmental Design and professional designers at the university's Cleveland Urban Design Collaborative is creating a park at Dobbins Landing and the Bicentennial Tower. (CONTRIBUTED)

the "fairly unwelcoming" streetscape along State Street south of the Bayfront Parkway.

The Kent State/CUDC proposals were first presented to the public at the end of an intensive three-day work session in Erie in October. Professional and student designers met with representatives of bayfront neighborhood groups, the Erie Downtown Partnership, Erie County Public Library, Erie Water Works, city and county planning departments, PennDOT and other organizations to hear concerns and suggestions and design possible solutions.

"Every year we take students out into the real world and into communities with urban design challenges," Zeiber said. "We hear about

the issues and in really short, intense design sessions go through options to address them and then get feedback from the people we're working with.

"It allows the students to interface with something that's not just theoretical," she said.

The team focused on projects that could be done no matter how the Bayfront Parkway is redesigned.

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation presented its leading proposals to improve the parkway in August. The proposals include construction of the two roundabouts, lowering the parkway at State Street and moving a stretch of CSX holding track near State Street.

It also proposes that

"iconic" pedestrian bridges be built over the reconstructed highway.

PennDOT will present final recommendations for the project this year.

The "Reconnecting the Bayfront" proposals don't reinvent that wheel or other downtown and bayfront plans, Zeiber said.

"We didn't want to throw away any existing work that's been done," Zeiber said. "A lot of time, thought and money — between what the (Erie-Western Pennsylvania) Port Authority, Erie Refocused, Erie Downtown, PennDOT and others have done — already have gone into this."

The new proposals are exciting, said Angela Beaumont, director of operations for the Jefferson Educational

Society, which solicited and sponsored the "Reconnecting the Bayfront" study.

"We loved its ideas. We were blown away. (Designers) grasped the challenges and showed us possibilities that we hadn't thought of," Beaumont said.

The new proposals fill a gap in other planning, Michael Fuhrman said. Fuhrman is a writer, lecturer and research consultant formerly involved in Destination Erie regional planning. With retired Erie Art Museum Director John Vanco, Fuhrman approached the Jefferson Educational Society about soliciting and sponsoring the Kent State/CUDC study.

The study was funded by identical \$5,000 grants from the Erie Community Foundation and Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

"This plan seems to be a sort of missing piece of the puzzle in a sense," Fuhrman said. "The PennDOT plan, for instance, is through a particular lens, and that is safety and dealing with congestion. And that's important."

"What CUDC put together is a vision through a different lens, one that's also concerned about congestion and safety but beyond that taps into how to connect the amenities on the waterfront with the urban core and more specifically with the east and west neighborhoods," Fuhrman said.


"It looks at what we need to do to create that spark of vitality that makes people consider visiting or living downtown. That's something that some of the other plans don't address and that will be huge in our success in terms of revitalization," he said.

Valerie Myers can be reached at 878-1913 or by email.



Friday, January 31, 2020

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Former Erie County Councilman Jay Breneman, left, and Bob Hand, president of the Academy Neighborhood Association, stand in the vacant lot at 329 E. 28th St. where they plan to put a shipping container to store the inventory of the tool lending library they started in 2017. [JACK HANRAHAN/ERIE TIMES-NEWS]

TOOL TIME

New home coming for tool lending library

By Ron Leonardi
rleonardi@timesnews.com

A vacant lot at 329 E. 28th St. is set to be transformed into Erie's tool lending library headquarters.

Academy Neighborhood Association officials said a recent \$3,000 Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority grant will allow the organization to expand the outreach of its popular tool lending library to further encourage home repairs among more city residents.

The neighborhood association purchased the East

28th Street lot in December from the city for \$250 in a repository sale. The association established its tool lending library in 2017 with fewer than 100 tools. Its inventory now totals more than 3,000 and all Erie residents are invited to use the library.

"This will give us a permanent spot going forward for the tool lending library to function and thrive," said Bob Hand, president of the Academy Neighborhood Association.

See TOOLS, A5



Rakes, shovels, brooms and other tools in the Academy Neighborhood Association's tool lending library are being stored temporarily in a basement room at the Jefferson Educational Society. [GREG WOHLFORD/ERIE TIMES-NEWS]



x



TOOLS

From Page A1

The program allows residents to borrow donated tools and equipment for free for home-repair projects or seasonal work.

Three years ago, members of the Academy Neighborhood gathered some of their own tools and launched the program at the Academy Neighborhood Center, 3025 French St.

"Additionally, we're here on East 28th Street, which is where Erie Refocused tells us to start," Hand, 50, said. "It's also taking an empty lot, and who knows how much longer it would sit here for if we didn't step in and do something with it. At the very least, we're going to mow it and take care of it. We're going to have a nice-looking building set back a little ways."

Neighborhood association officials plan to place a shipping container measuring 8 feet by 40 feet on the 5,600-square-foot lot to permanently store the tool lending library's expanding inventory.

Once the shipment container is placed on the lot, neighborhood association staff will add siding, and the lot will feature a white picket fence, community garden, flower boxes and solar-powered security lights.

A shipping container was chosen because it is strong, durable, weather-proof and affordable.

Hand said he is waiting on the lot's sale to be finalized. He anticipates the relocated tool library will open in mid-summer.

Meanwhile, the tool lending library is temporarily closed, and its tool inventory is in storage in the basement of the Jefferson Educational Society, 3207 State St.

There are no plans to place any additional structures on the East 28th Street lot in addition to the shipping container, Hand said.

"People can pull up and park," he said. "We want to make sure we're accessible and make it easy for anybody to get back there."

Once the tool lending library re-launches, tools will be distributed on Saturdays and possibly on another day, Hand said.

During the past three years, tools have been distributed to city residents on Saturdays at the Academy Neighborhood Center. Former Erie County

Councilman Jay Breneman brought the concept of a tool lending library to Hand after working on a citizens' blight manual as part of the Jefferson Educational Society's Civic Leadership Academy in 2016.

"I was in my basement and garage clearing through all the extra tools I had from two homes I remodeled, and my wife was right," Breneman, 37, said. "I had all these extra tools I only used once. I didn't want to get rid of them, so I thought why don't I put my money where my mouth is and start this tool library."

Breneman doesn't live in the Academy Neighborhood, but he has family members who do and he spends a lot of time there. His children also go to school there.

The Academy Neighborhood covers an area bound by State Street to the west and Parade Street and Old French Road to the east, and by East 26th and 38th streets to the north and south.

"We set it up and said, 'Let's just play this by ear,'" Breneman said. "It's just grown steadily and it's become a resource for the neighborhood. I don't turn anybody away."

Hand said the tool lending library was established to encourage residents to tackle home repairs and to assist them financially so they don't have to purchase tools they might only need to use once or twice.

"Maybe somebody wants to do a job but can't afford to go buy three or four one-time-use tools and have them sitting around," Hand said. "Or maybe there is somebody who may very well can afford it but is choosing not to and wants to spend their money in some other way, but still wants to get the work done to improve their home in Erie."

An expanding tool inventory has been sustained by three years of continual tool donations.

"I think people want to part with stuff from their house, but they want to know that it is going somewhere where it will be used," Hand said. "We have received tools that were somebody's father's tools, family tools that have been in a family for generations and they want them to go somewhere useful."

Most of the tool inventory's largest donations have come in the past year, Breneman said.

"It came to the point where I had to tell people to hold off on donating tools because I was running

out of ways to process them," Breneman said. "I've learned how to store things and organize them. I've learned about tools I didn't know existed, and I've learned how to identify antique tools."

The tool library works mainly on trust.

"We trust everybody," Hand said. "Everybody has brought everything back."

No deposit is required, but people who borrow tools must provide their name, address and have their photo taken with whatever implement they are borrowing.

Hand believes the new east Erie location, once it becomes operational, will expand the neighborhood association's ability to distribute tools to more residents across the city.

"I think having this permanent location, knowing where it is, being able to put it on social media every day, having it look nice and being an asset to the neighborhood will help," Hand said. "Now you're going to get people in and out all the time looking for something, looking for a drain snake that they don't want to go buy — things that you use once. I think that's going to be the biggest asset."

People had been donating building supplies such as tile, wood, piping, plumbing and electrical items, but it became too much of a burden space-wise and material-wise, and "not enough supplies were going out as was coming in," Breneman said.

Breneman decided to restrict the library inventory to tools and other consumable supplies such as tape, nail screws, cabinet hinges, doorknobs, and other essentials.

"Our goal is to make this program part of the neighborhood where people just naturally know that this is the place you go if you need to fix something around your house," Breneman said. "We want it to become a place for people to come and learn about what tools are available and how to repair their home."

"We plan to have classes here by handy people and experts on how to do basic repair work, pet projects and gardening," he said. "Whatever we do here, we want to make sure it's complementary to the neighborhood."

Ron Leonardi can be reached at 870-1680 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/ETNLeonardi.



Local communities get park grants

By Rick Chemicky, editor,
Edinboro/McKean and
Sandy Rhodes, editor, FLAG area

More than \$45,000 has been awarded to area communities to use to improve parks, thanks to a grant from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

The money awarded in this round is part of a \$1 million funding pool that continues to support the current Community Assets grant program, which includes two additional project areas: Arts and Culture plus Heritage and Community Centers.

The Parks, Fields & Trails Grants pro-

vide funding for capital projects to create, protect, or improve publicly accessible parks, athletic fields, and trails throughout Erie County. Funding can also be used to increase or improve access to recreational facilities, according to information provided by ECGRA.

Edinboro Borough, Washington Township, Platea Borough and Springfield Township all received money for their respective parks.

Edinboro Borough will receive \$25,000 for Thompson Park.

Borough Manager Kevin Oppl said

See Parks, P. 2



Photo by Sandy Rhodes

Girard Borough Manager Rob Stubenbort holds up some material that will be used to renovate the meeting room for Council chambers during a meeting Jan. 20. See story on Page B8.

rs to the Edit
aries

Parks

, B2, B3
, B6, B7

Continued from Page 1

these improvements are necessary to make the park safe for children.

"Thompson Park used to have a play area, but it was wood and was removed when it was deemed unsafe," Oppl said. "The play area will be small, since there is not a lot of room to the east of the courts, but should have swings, a slide and some other activities for the kids."

Oppl added the courts will be renovated and lighted with Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) money.

"The CDBG money will be used to install a play area next to the basketball courts in Thompson Park downtown," Oppl said. "The courts are scheduled to be renovated this summer as well. The courts will be resurfaced and lighted installed."

Inspiration Park Trail Project in Washington Township will receive \$16,500 that is earmarked for picnic areas.

"Park money is earmarked for outfitting five picnic areas with a table, fire ring, grill and trash can. A small pavilion will be erected at the top of the hill near the new parking area, Washington Township Manager David Anthony said. "In addition, we will be establishing trails using either millings or wood chips for walking and hiking in the nicer months and cross-country skiing in the winter.

"It is wonderful to have this huge blank slate that we can mold into an awesome treasure for the community. The 70 acres is gaining in popularity almost daily. A beau-

tiful location that will be transformed with this latest grant from ECGRA."

Some landscaping work is on tap for Bicentennial Park in Springfield Township.

Township Secretary Meredith Borstorff said the \$3,750 for the township will go toward landscaping with the addition of trees and flowers in the park.

In Platea Borough, \$2,500 will help keep toddlers busy while visiting Platea Borough Park.

"We are getting new pieces of equipment for toddlers," Secretary Lyne Daniels said, explaining that there will be a bouncy ride where kids can ride on animals.

The borough will also use the money for wood chips that will help prevent weed growth.



Humane Society, Three Forts project among grant recipients

ECGRA awards nearly \$150,000 to 10 agencies for parks, fields, trails

By Matthew Rink
Erie Times-News

The Humane Society of Northwest Pennsylvania will continue to grow at its Zimmerman Road home that it has occupied since 2004.

Plans call for the expansion of the Humane Society's "Bark Park" and "Wagging Trails." On Friday, the Humane Society received \$15,000 from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority for the project. It was one of 10 agencies to receive a total of \$149,840 from ECGRA's Community Asset Grant Program for parks, fields and trails.

Community members and their pets will have access to the Bark Park and Wagging Trails.

"When I came on board almost five years ago, the board of directors and I started discussing how we could enhance our campus and utilizing it not only for our shelter pets, but for all of our community members to benefit from," Executive Director Nicole Bawol said Friday morning at the Humane Society during a ceremony at which the ECGRA grants were announced.

In 2016, the Humane Society developed a multi-phase plan to remake its campus. The first phase involves enhancing its existing dog park and creating walking trails, Bawol said.

"Grant funding for organizations like ours and projects like this are imperative," she said.

Another project funded Friday was a proposal to replicate three Presque Isle forts — French, British and American versions — on their original east Erie locations. The Bayfront Eastside Task Force formed a limited liability company last year to raise funds and apply for grants for a study that will help determine if the project is feasible.

Freelance writer and researcher Michael Fuhrman and Erie County Councilman Carl Anderson, whose occupation involves historical research, advanced the idea following a study by the Jefferson Education Society.

ECGRA awarded B.E.S.T. \$20,000.

"The Forts and Presque Isle represent our heritage, our culture, recreation and economic development," Anderson said, "so there's no better project that we could be talking about when we talk about trying to move our community forward, looking to our past and celebrating our heritage."

Anderson appeared with four other members of Erie County Council: chairman Andre Horton, Brian Shank, Mary Rennie and Scott Rastetter. Also on hand was state Rep. Ryan Bizzarro, D-3rd Dist.

ECGRA grants require a dollar-for-dollar match from recipients, which must be either nonprofits or municipalities.

The other eight recipients of ECGRA's Community Asset Grants for parks, fields and trails Friday were:

- Asbury Woods, \$14,918, Meadow Trail restoration
- Borough of Edinboro, \$25,000, Thompson Park renewal
- Headwaters NRC Trust, \$25,000, Headwaters Park nature play area
- Lake Erie Arboretum at Frontier, \$14,712, 2020 LEAF Pathways project
- Lake Erie Region Conservancy, \$12,459, West Road Access Area trail improvement
- Platea Borough, \$2,500, Platea Borough park improvement project
- Springfield Township, \$3,750, Bicentennial Park improvements
- Washington Township, \$16,500, Inspiration Park trail project

Matthew Rink can be reached at 870-1884 or by email. Follow him on Twitter at www.Twitter.com/ETNrink



Renaissance Block Committee readies application for funding

BY REBEKAH WALLACE
rebekah@thecorryjournal.com

Impact Corry and a six-member Renaissance Block Committee are working to prepare an application for \$100,000 in funding from the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA). If awarded, Impact Corry says the funds will be part of a 2020 Renaissance Block Program Grant (RBPG) for various home improvement and beautification projects.

Applications to receive this grant money are due on Nov. 31 and recipients will be announced on April 16.

According to Impact Corry, the program is a dollar-for-dollar matching grant that allows for up to but no more than \$5,000 to be awarded per address, regardless of the size of project being proposed.

Impact Corry Community Development Director Chuck Gray said this means that each homeowner would be responsible for putting up the first \$5,000 toward completing a project, and the money being sought by the committee would be used to double that amount.

This could potentially add up to a total of \$10,000 per home, if Corry is awarded the grant money. If a homeowner's proposed project costs more than this, the homeowner would be

responsible to make up the remainder.

Gray said the work being done on the Renaissance grant application is bringing the Corry community closer together.

"The opportunity to apply for these funds has already created connections between neighbors and neighborhoods as residents work together to begin the application process," Gray said.

On Dec. 20, 2019, Impact Corry received a round of preliminary applications, which included information about projects homeowners in four eligible Corry neighborhoods were hoping to have done.

The four designated neighborhoods are called School House Block, Park Place, Bear Creek and Hiram's Haunt. Together, they stretch as far south as West Washington Street, east to Wayne Street, north to Bond Street (including the south side of East Irving Street between Wright Street and Wayne Street) and west to Mead Avenue.

Impact Corry said 54 homeowners from Schoolhouse Block submitted information by the Dec. 20 deadline, and based on these applications, it was chosen as the first neighborhood to be worked on should the grant money

Block

(Continued from front page)

Schoolhouse Block includes sections of Wayne, Wright, North Center, East Irving, Bond, East Congress, East Frederick and Gould streets.

Finalized and updated applications from the same 54 Schoolhouse Block homeowners who first submitted estimates were due Jan. 31.

The newer applications were completed with the help of contractors and after homeowners doing DIY projects were able to add up anticipated costs for materials, Gray said.

"We don't know how many of these homes will meet this next cut off," she said.

Gray also said she is impressed by the amount of interest in this program so far.

"We have been so enthused by the widespread commitment to and interest in the Renaissance

Block Program," Gray said. Proposed improvements to the other three neighborhoods will take place if and when the funding becomes available, Gray said. She noted that in two years a new application can be submitted for an additional \$100,000.

"We have built in up to two years to get funded for each neighborhood before moving onto the next," Gray said. "We are looking for additional funding sources to match the renaissance block monies. I am already beginning to apply two other funding sources this year."

Projected matching amounts for the other neighborhoods are as follows: Park Place, \$65,875; Bear Creek, \$50,525; and Hiram's Haunt, \$19,900. These numbers are based on estimates submitted by homeowners on or before Dec. 20.

See Block, P.2



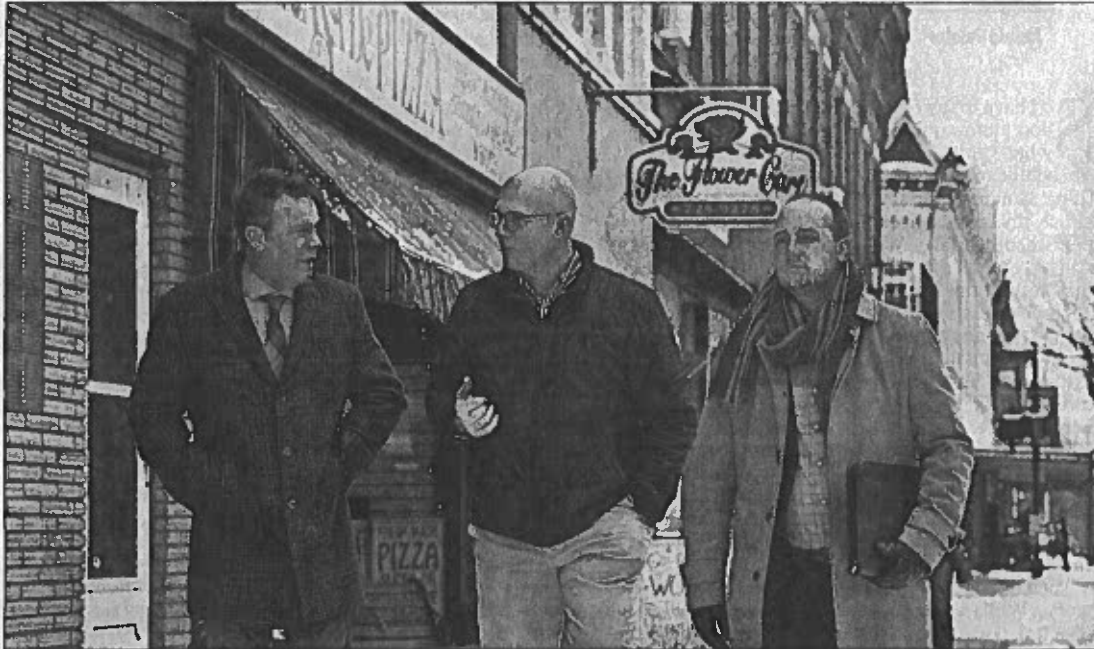
Erie Times-News

Friday, February 7, 2020

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'Sustain North East'



From left, Pennsylvania State Senator Dan Laughlin, North East Borough Manager Patrick Gehrlein and Perry Wood, executive director of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, tour downtown North East on Thursday to discuss future economic possibilities related to Mercyhurst North East being put up for sale. (GREG WOHLFORD PHOTOS/ERIE TIMES-NEWS)

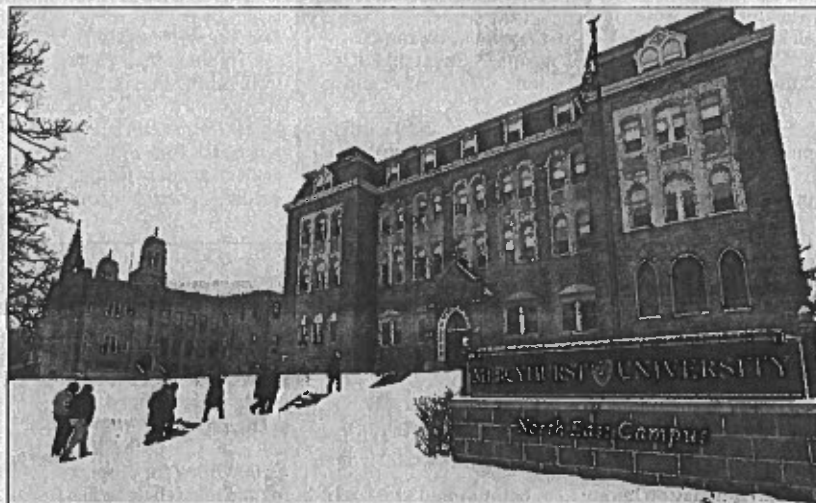
Plan would pump millions into downtown buildings, streetscapes

By Matthew Rink
mrink@timesnews.com

NORTH EAST — A multi-million initiative unveiled by civic leaders Thursday aims to reinvent and renovate historic downtown buildings, attract viable residential and commercial tenants and improve streetscapes.

The Sustain North East Initiative also strives to assist Mercyhurst University in marketing and preserving the historic buildings, including the chapel, on its North East campus, pinpoint appropriate future uses of the campus and find a new long-term property owner.

Mercyhurst University has requested \$25 million in state Revitalization Assistance Capital Program



After a tour of downtown North East, local business, political and civic leaders visit Mercyhurst North East to discuss future economic possibilities related to the pending sale of the campus.

funds for the North East campus. And the borough has requested \$10 million in RACP funds for the Sustain North East plan. The

requests are part of Senate Bill 905, a capital project funding authorization bill that remains in committee, but could be put to a

vote this spring.

Borough Manager Patrick Gehrlein and Charlene

See PLAN, A4



PLAN

From Page A1

Kerr, chair of Downtown North East Inc., said facade improvements have benefited some downtown businesses. But those are merely cosmetic, they said. Many of the same buildings along Main and Lake streets require substantial structural upgrades.

"And the money isn't there in the private sector to do it," Kerr said, noting that property owners would receive little to no return on their investment.

"We don't want to just gloss over those problems and say, 'Well, there's a new coat of paint,'" Gehrlein said.

The borough of North East, the North East Area Chamber of Commerce, Downtown North East Inc., a non-profit that works on economic development and beautification projects, and other entities are attempting to raise \$1.2 million locally for the Sustain North East plan. The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority has already approved a \$400,000 loan for the local fundraising efforts.

"We have the opportunity with the Mercyhurst North East campus closing to do something exciting and create some synergy with downtown," said Perry Wood, executive director of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

On Thursday, North East Area Chamber of Commerce Director Holly Ferruggia, North East Township Planning Commission Chairman Vernon Frye, Wood, Kerr and Gehrlein accompanied state Sen. Dan Laughlin, R-49th Dist., on a tour of downtown and the Mercyhurst North East campus.

"The intentional investment you're trying

to make here is really important," Laughlin said. "You're not just doing this willy-nilly."

'A huge blow'

Though structural issues of historic downtown buildings have needed to be addressed for several years, the borough was confronted with an even more daunting challenge in 2019 when Mercyhurst University announced it would move all but one of its associate degree and certificate programs from North East to its main campus in Erie.

Mercyhurst plans to move those programs from the North East campus, which includes the former St. Mary's Seminary and multiple student apartment complexes, after the spring 2021 semester.

The campus, which straddles the borough of North East and North East Township, is currently on the market.

"It had to be a huge blow to a small community like this," Laughlin told the group Thursday morning.

Caleb Pifer, vice president of external relations for Mercyhurst, said a comprehensive marketing plan for the campus is being developed.

"Our administration is really hoping that there will be an end result that's good for everybody," he said.

Debbie Morton, a spokeswoman for Mercyhurst, said the RACP funding, if awarded, would not be used by the university.

"We are not seeking these funds for our use," Morton said, "but to make them available for whomever would acquire the property in the future and seek to develop it for the economic revitalization of the region."

Sustain plan specifics

The Sustain North

East initiative would invest an estimated \$5 million into new sidewalks, curbs and gutters, street lights, trees and other plantings, security cameras and Wi-Fi. The improvements would affect east and west Main Street and Lake Street (Route 89) from the underpass south of downtown to Mercyhurst North East.

It also would dedicate \$3 million into deteriorating historic buildings to bring them up to code and to improve access to mostly vacant second-story spaces. Those spaces could be turned into professional offices or loft apartments.

Some of the buildings, Kerr said, have sagging roofs and poor foundations or have mold issues.

Jenny Sholtis, 32, owns the building at the southwest corner of East Main and Vine streets with a group of partners known collectively as KJAM Properties.

The building, constructed in 1892, has two commercial units, including one occupied by Lake Country Bike, and two apartments. It also has a spacious ballroom with hardwood floors.

Sholtis called the building "a long-term investment," but one that could be aided by the collaborative efforts of local officials.

"We just want to get good tenants in for the community and keep those tenants long-term," Sholtis said. "We want people to come to the community, stay in the community. Especially upstairs, it would be great to have an event space for downtown that everyone could utilize."

Gehrlein said smaller communities too often "wait for what will happen next" instead of being proactive. That shouldn't be the case for North East, he said.

"So much of our downtown community

is built around tourism, he said. "Being right on the grape trail and the wine trail, we want to capitalize on that."

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VIEWPOINT

OUR VIEW

North East charts path to future

The issue: Sustain North East Initiative
Our view: Proactive collaboration promising

As the 2021 closure of the Mercyhurst University North East campus draws near, the North East community stands at a pivotal crossroads.

We don't have to look far to see what can happen when the economic engines that sustain small town life pack up and leave.

Recovery is not a given. In fact, it is the exception. And it succeeds usually only when community stakeholders rally with speed, craft a vision and pursue it together, rather than endure loss passively.

Franklin, to Erie's south, is one such place that sprang into action decades ago as the changing global economy siphoned away manufacturing jobs. It went after funding to finesse its Victorian main street with attractive facades and lighting. It packed a calendar full of events, including the nationally recognized Applefest and the just-ended Franklin on Ice, that are hosted in the graceful parks that flank the soaring twin-towered Italianate Venango County courthouse. Marquee festivals combined with a humming downtown boasting good restaurants, boutiques, a microbrewery, a distillery and a winery enhance life for residents and act as a draw for visitors from afar.

The price of inaction or half measures can be seen in contrast in suffering downtowns throughout this region and beyond. It's the rotting facades, empty storefronts and quiet calendars that suggest surrender.

It is welcome to see North East spurn the wait-and-see approach and instead embrace Mercyhurst's departure as an opportunity to restore and refresh its downtown to new purpose.

As reporter Matthew Rink detailed, leaders are pursuing an ambitious multi-pronged, multi-million dollar initiative they have dubbed Sustain North East.

Mercyhurst has requested \$25 million in state Revitalization Assistance Capital Program funding to help whom-ever acquires the campus develop it.

In conjunction with that, the Sustain North East initiative plans to help market the campus and preserve its historic buildings, including the chapel. It will also seek \$10 million in RACP funds to overhaul the downtown, restoring historic buildings from the foundation up, improving streetscapes and facades, and installing security cameras and Wi-Fi.

Local capital also will be tapped. The borough, the North East Chamber of Commerce, Downtown North East Inc. and others are looking to raise \$1.2 million with the help of a \$400,000 Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority fundraising loan.

North East, like Franklin, enjoys an attractive layout and handsome historic architecture. And it has an established tourist trade visitors who ply the grape and wine trails, as Borough Manager Patrick Gehrlein noted.

The cross-sector, forward-looking activism in North East mirrors efforts underway in Erie and smaller communities like Corry and Union City.

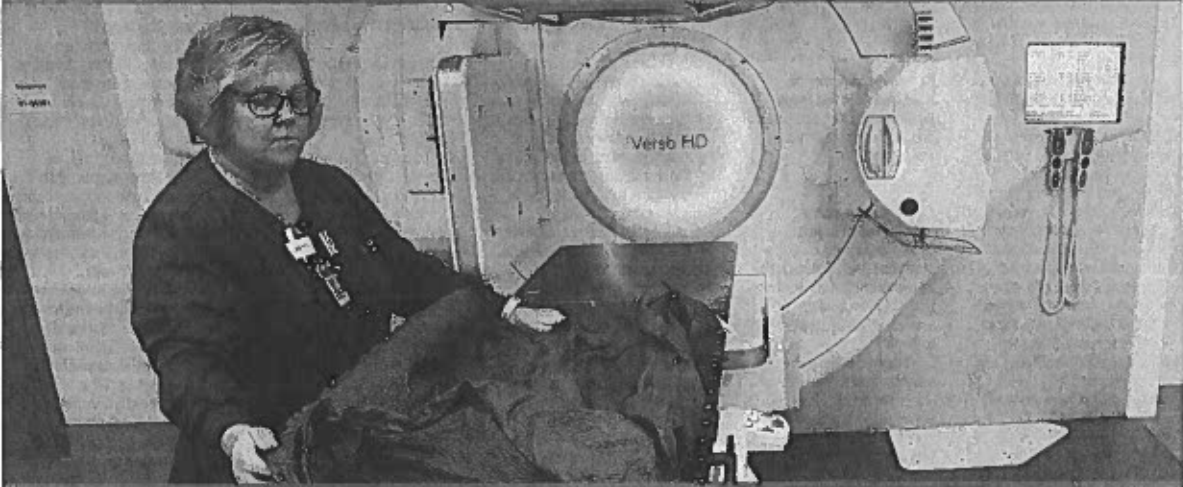
It's smart. It's intentional. And really, given the price of inaction, the only way forward.



ERIE 2020

ERIE THROUGH FRESH EYES

ANNUAL ECONOMIC REPORT FOR THE REGION • SUNDAY, FEB. 16, 2020 • SECTION K





ERIE GROUPS HELP FUND REVITALIZATION

By Matthew Rink
Erie Times-News

For the Erie Community Foundation, there was no better way to start the year than with a string of 20s to end 2019.

"We had what we call a 20, 20, 20, 20 year," President Mike Batchelor said of 2019. "It was pretty amazing. We had new gifts of more than \$20 million. We had grants of more than \$20 million. Our assets went up by more than \$20 million and we created more than 20 new endowment funds. So going into 2020, that makes us optimistic that we can be helpful."

Another big achievement: The Erie Community Foundation's annual Erie Gives campaign, a 12-hour online fundraiser that benefits local nonprofits of all sizes and missions, set another record in 2019, raising \$5.53 million from 8,958 donors for 391 participating nonprofits.

In his 30 years on the job, Batchelor has never felt so excited about the foundation and the direction of the city and county.

"I've frankly never been more optimistic about our community's future," Batchelor said.

This year, the Erie Community Foundation will continue to advance new initiatives it unveiled in recent years.

Those initiatives fall into three categories:

First, it has doubled its small grant gift-making pool from \$500,000 to \$1 million.

Second, it's dedicating \$15 million to three to five transformational grants. The first was announced in September — a \$6 million donation to a \$26 million project to expand the Magee Womens Research Institute in Pittsburgh to UPMC Hamot's Magee-Womens Hospital in Erie.

UPMC, Penn State Behrend, Hamot Health Foundation and the Magee Womens Research Institute are contributing \$5 million each.

"We want projects with strong local champions that can leverage our money by several multiples and implement a project that could change the trajectory of our community," Batchelor said. "It's a very high bar. We are thrilled about our first grant. We think it meets all those tasks."

Those funds will also be dedicated to projects that would transform

neighborhoods, strengthen the downtown core and improve community health outcomes. The foundation received 25 ideas that it has since narrowed down.

The third endeavor is a \$10 million commitment to mission-related investments. The foundation is using principal, instead of earned interest, from its endowment to make those investments, a departure from past practice.

It granted the Housing and Neighborhood Development Service \$500,000 for its purchase of the iconic Boston Store last year.

The foundation will also continue to work with partners like the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority on projects such as the Union City Historic Preservation Plan, which received \$625,000 last year through ECGRA's Mission Main Street fund and the Erie Community Foundation's Shaping Tomorrow fund, and the new Erie Center for Arts and Technology.

The Erie Community Foundation is providing ECAT \$1.5 million and ECGRA is adding \$500,000 so that ECAT can rehabilitate the former Wayne School building.

ECGRA Executive Director Perry Wood noted that the agency, charged with distributing \$4.5 million of gaming revenue annually, has reached a level of "stability" and "accomplishment" after 10 years in operation.

An impact study released in the fall notes that ECGRA has generated \$128 million in economic impact and created nearly 850 jobs.

"The board is happy with it and I know elected officials are happy with it and the communities that we're serving are happy with it," Wood said of the ECGRA model. "And that's a really good place to be after you've invested \$50 million in the community and had 10 years under your belt to work toward the most effective revitalization models in the United States."

ECGRA has refined and expanded some of its signature grant programs in recent years in hopes of jump starting revitalization projects across the county.

It's also continued to build its Lead Assets Endowment, which funds nine nonprofits such as the Erie Art Museum and Erie

Zoological Society. The fund has grown to \$13.9 million and grants are now made using interest from the endowment.

One program, Renaissance Block, aided 15 neighborhood groups and municipalities in revitalization efforts last year. The program allows up to \$5,000 to be spent per property on exterior improvements in a designated area.

Our West Bayfront, for example, received \$100,000 last year to implement improvements aimed at preserving neighborhood character and improving safety and walkability in an area around Gridley Park and a four-block area nearby.

"They're working heavily with the university (Gannon) as well as the residents," Wood said of Our West Bayfront. "They're revitalizing the Eighth Street commercial corridor as well as the surrounding neighborhoods. They truly get the synergy that needs to be created between Renaissance Block and commercial corridors. We are cheerleaders just as much as we are funding supporters."

ECGRA requires recipients to match their grants dollar for dollar. Wood has said frequently that such a model has "unleashed capital" and that the overwhelming response from the community is a "sign of pent-up demand."

In coming months, ECGRA will be working with the borough of North East, multiple community organizations and Mercyhurst University on ways to market downtown North East and the Mercyhurst North East campus, which the university intends to vacate and sell following the 2021 spring semester.

"The idea there is to take the revitalization process to the next level by really wrapping as many resources around a community like North East as we can," he said.

"If this is successful and we're able to effectively get a priority list in place and start advocating for funding of those priorities alongside the funding that ECGRA is putting in, I think we'll have a new model for dealing with the revitalization process."

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CORRY EMBRACES BLUE ZONES PROJECT

By David Bruce
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CORRY - Employees at Corry Counseling Services can now stand at their desks or pedal while they sit at them.

They can also join a weekly walking group or ease their stress by spending a few minutes in the office's new "downshifting" room, where they can relax and perhaps listen to ocean waves on a portable stereo.

"I'm encouraged by how our staff has embraced these changes," said Karen Croyle, Corry Counseling Services executive director. "They are used to us doing things that promote engagement, so it's not a surprise. But I'm glad they are so willing to get involved."

Corry Counseling Services is just one Corry-area business that is embracing the region's efforts to be a Blue Zones Community. It's a three-year community initiative designed to improve people's health and help them live longer lives.

After months of planning, healthy activities and other changes have been occurring all over the region since Blue Zones Project - Corry was launched in June.

"The national team is so impressed with how quickly the Corry community has come on board with this project," said Shannon Wohlford, the project's engagement lead. "People have really come forward, eager to join."

Corry was selected earlier this year to be the 47th Blue Zones community in the world.

The project is designed to help residents live longer, healthier lives by following examples - known as the Power 9 lifestyle principles - found in communities around the world where a high percentage of people live into their 90s and 100s.

The \$3.5 million cost of the project is funded primarily by UPMC, Highmark Health and Corry Memorial Hospital. It also



Denise Selb, human resources director at the Corry Counseling Center, uses a standing desk in her office. The center is among the Corry-area businesses embracing the region's efforts to be a Blue Zones Community. The \$3.5 million Blue Zones Project, designed to improve people's health, is funded primarily by UPMC, Highmark Health and Corry Memorial Hospital. (JACK HANRAHAN/ERIE TIMES-NEWS)



As part of the Blue Zones project, the Corry Counseling Center has created a break room designed to calm workers. (JACK HANRAHAN/ERIE TIMES-NEWS)

has received \$100,000 from the Erie County Gaming Authority and several

smaller grants. A recent study conducted by Blue Zones

Blue Zones is working with a volunteer at Corry Memorial Hospital to offer three or four tobacco cessation programs a year in Corry. The first six-week session started Jan. 15 and included seven participants.

A healthy cooking class, which featured a plant-based Mediterranean diet, drew 16 people to Corry's Emmanuel Episcopal Church in November.

More classes will be held in the future, Wohlford said.

"We also are working with the Salvation Army and the Second Harvest Food Bank to host a mobile fresh fruit and vegetable stand," Wohlford said. "The Salvation Army, which offers breakfasts and lunches on weekdays, asked us to come and do some healthy food tastings and food-skills training."

Blue Zones Project - Corry is also working with Sander's Markets in Corry to help it become a Blue Zones Project-approved grocery store.

As part of the process, signs will be attached to certain shelves and coolers in the store that contain fresh fruits and vegetables, whole-grain and other healthy foods.

"It's all about making the healthy choice the easy choice," said Jennifer Eberline, the project's community program manager.

Taste tastings and educational programs are also planned for Corry Area School District students, teachers and staff as the district tries to become a Blue Zones-approved school.

The project also was awarded a \$20,000 grant from Pennsylvania WalkWorks to create a walking and biking plan for Corry. The search for a consultant to implement this project started in January.

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Project - Corry shows the need for a community health initiative.

The well-being survey showed that a higher percentage of Corry residents have high blood pressure, are obese or overweight, and have high cholesterol levels than the Pennsylvania and national averages.

Most alarmingly, 85 percent of Corry residents ages 18 to 24 have tried tobacco.

"We learned there were no face-to-face tobacco cessation classes being held in Corry," Wohlford said. "People either had to call the (1-800) QUIT-NOW number or drive to Erie for classes."



Upstart business gets help from the hive

Edinboro students launch company to keep fishing sites clean

By Ed Palattella
Erie Times-News

Hunter Klobucar and Tyler Waltenbaugh, students at Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, became friends over a shared passion for steelhead fishing.

Their connection has become so tight that the two have launched a business to promote environmental conservation among freshwater anglers, whether they are casting lines on the streams and creeks of northwestern Pennsylvania or the raging rivers of the American West.

"We want to be that company in the outdoors industry that is making the change," Klobucar said. "It has the potential to make the change in the industry, the potential to change the world."

He and Waltenbaugh are partners in Fish Gods, a company that has developed a reusable collapsible mesh bag for anglers to pick up trash. Fish Gods has a logo and other promotional materials and is ready to court investors for the production of the inexpensive bag.

"We want to target the angling community first and branch out into other outdoor activities such as camping, hiking and biking," Waltenbaugh said.

He and Klobucar got hooked on their idea in the summer of 2018. The swift trajectory from concept to company is due largely to the help Fish Gods has received from the Northwest Pennsylvania Innovation Beehive Network, created in 2014 and expanded in the following years as a grant-funded collaboration for entrepreneurs between Edinboro University, Penn State Behrend, Gannon University, Mercyhurst University and the Erie County Public Library.

"We can give them all our ideas and they can make this happen," Waltenbaugh said. "It is irreplaceable."

Idea bubbles up

Waltenbaugh, 23, a senior strategic communications major, is from Leechburg, northeast of Pittsburgh. Klobucar, 21, a junior majoring in environmental geology, is from Jeannette, southeast of Pittsburgh.

The two, who now share an apartment, got to know each other at Edinboro through fishing. They founded the campus fly-fishing club and got it chartered through the 5 Rivers program of Trout Unlimited, the fishing advocacy nonprofit.

In the summer of 2018, Waltenbaugh and Klobucar were among four college students selected to participate in Trout Unlimited's Pennsylvania Brook Trout Odyssey, meant to increase understanding of the popular game fish. During the fishing trip, which followed Route 6 in Pennsylvania, Waltenbaugh and Klobucar noticed how plastic items — bottles, milk jugs, forks, spoons — and other trash littered streams throughout the state.

"It was unbelievable," Waltenbaugh said.

The two also came to realize that picking up and collecting the trash could be difficult for anglers because they are already carrying rods and other gear. Waltenbaugh and Klobucar came up with a solution: a mesh bag, clipped to an angler's clothing, into which garbage could be placed.

"Our bag is the answer to turning a blind eye on trash," Waltenbaugh said. "Where do you put a dirty water bottle that has been sitting in mud for three weeks?"

Busy Beehive

Fish Gods is one of a number of startups that the Northwest Pennsylvania Innovation Beehive Network has helped launch. Some others:

- Sphere Brakes, a specialty brake company.
 - One Leg Up, a locally produced line of dog toys.
 - Bayfront Glass, a bottle and jar recycler.
 - M2 Additive, which uses a new kind of extruder for plastics-based manufacturing.
 - Amplife, whose product is a collapsible bowl with a no-spill lid and a built-in charger and a stand for an iPhone or iPad. It is designed for families that are traveling with children.
- Compiled by Penn State Behrend, which is part of the Beehive Network with Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Gannon University, Mercyhurst University and the Erie County Library.
- Watch video of the founders of Fish Gods discuss their company: www.GoErie.com/Videos.

He and Klobucar also aimed to make their product environmentally friendly. They came up with a bag that would be made of mesh, with a flexible lid, and that could be used again and again.

"The idea," Klobucar, "is to have a bag that you don't throw away."

Catching a wave

Klobucar and Waltenbaugh kept developing their idea when they started along the path that would eventually get them involved with the Beehive Network. In the spring of 2019, they named their company Fish Gods, after an ancient phrase in which anglers pray for a good catch.

If you are kind to the fish gods and respect the environment, Klobucar said, "the fish gods will bless you with good fortune, a good day on the water."

Fish Gods' fortunes improved during Waltenbaugh's class on introduction to public relations at Edinboro. His professor, Tony Peyronel, told the students about the Ben Franklin Partnership's Big Idea Startup Contest. The competition, run locally through Penn State Behrend, carries a top prize of \$50,000 for a new company.

Waltenbaugh and Klobucar entered the Big Idea contest in



Tyler Waltenbaugh looks over promotional materials for the company he started with Hunter Klobucar. They have developed a collapsible bag for fishermen to pick up trash.

the spring of 2019 and did not win for Fish Gods.

But they got encouragement through the contest to enroll in a 10-week business camp for startups at Behrend called the Ben Franklin Tech-Celebrator@Erie. At the end of the camp, they won \$5,000 for their pitch for Fish Gods and the reusable bag, which will have an "earth-friendly name" and be about a foot long, Klobucar said.

Waltenbaugh and Klobucar used the \$5,000 as capital to build up their business.

Meanwhile, they tapped into a trove of resources that cost them nothing. They became clients of Edinboro's Beehive, in which students and faculty in marketing and other fields assist nonprofits and business enterprises, most of them startups such as Fish Gods.

"We are here to give them as much help as we can," said Peyronel, executive director for entrepreneurial development at Edinboro University. "We run it like an agency that does not bill clients."

Peyronel's job includes oversight of Edinboro's Center for Branding & Strategic Communications, part of the Northwest Pennsylvania Innovation Beehive Network. He said the Edinboro Beehive has taken on

more than 50 clients, with Waltenbaugh and Klobucar as the only student clients.

They are also the first clients to use the Edinboro Beehive's Student Startup Hub, in the university's Baron-Forness Library. The hub provides space so student entrepreneurs do not have to work out of their dorm rooms or apartments.

"They are really on the move here," Peyronel said of the two. "They are on their way. They are looking for investors. We are continuing to work with them this semester as they prepare to publicly launch the product."

The Edinboro Beehive students and faculty helped Fish Gods develop a logo — it incorporates the trident, symbol of the ultimate fish god, Neptune — and helped them craft their branding, promotional materials and marketing plan. The Edinboro faculty and staff also helped in designing the company's website, which is to go live soon.

The Beehive Network at Gannon provided legal assistance and Penn State in University Park provided legal guidance as Waltenbaugh and Klobucar created a limited liability company, in September. And the Beehive Network at Penn State

"Our bag is the answer to turning a blind eye on trash. Where do you put a dirty water bottle that has been sitting in mud for three weeks?"

Tyler Waltenbaugh
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania student

Behrend, with its program on plastics engineering and its Innovation Commons for entrepreneurs, helped them design a prototype bag.

The pooling of resources, which has benefited other startups in the area, is what makes the Beehive Network so valuable for entrepreneurs, many of whom have little funding or expertise to tackle all the business-related details on their own, said Amy Bridger, senior director of corporate strategy and external engagement at Penn State Behrend.

Bridger helps coordinate the Beehive Network, which she said is designed to "create an entrepreneurial ecosystem for the entrepreneur."

"The credibility of the network makes a difference," she said.

Dream floats on

Waltenbaugh and Klobucar stand out among the other startup founders in that they are college students juggling schoolwork and social lives with the demands of launching a business. The Beehive Network proved an asset to them in that regard as well.

Without the Beehive Network, "I really don't think we would be where we are in our lives right now," Waltenbaugh said. A student entrepreneur needs such a support system, he said, "Unless you have a rich uncle."

The Beehive Network's assistance, Klobucar said, "made us legitimate and professional."

The Beehive also helped the two students dream. They dream about making their signature product. But they also dream about bigger ideas. The fish gods, after all, are watching.

"We have plans much further than a bag," Waltenbaugh said. "We have bigger plans for Fish Gods and environmental issues."

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From Page L1

Bartlett and Detzel say they are just as confident that they've found the right match for their talents and the marketplace.

Bartlett said she imagines working someday at a place like Erie Insurance or maybe Wabtec.

Detzel likewise likes the idea of staying in Erie.

"There are so many options," he said. "Pretty much every company will be using internet connected devices."

Detzel and Bartlett aren't the only ones making an important bet.

Gannon, which announced the creation of two new majors and I-HACK in the fall of 2018, is betting millions of dollars that the university is investing its money in the right place at the right time.

The plan calls for a top-to-bottom transformation of the vault-like Verizon building at 131 W. Ninth St. where hundreds of telephone operators once plied their trade.

The renovation would begin with a facelift of the first and second floors for use as a lobby and academic space, both of which would be ready for class this fall.

Pierre McCormick, a 1979 Gannon graduate, last year donated \$1 million to the university, which is being used to establish the Pierre McCormick Cyber Learning Center on the building's second floor.

A third floor, which would be called the hatchery and would be linked by an open stairway from the second floor, is envisioned as a place where students and faculty could work on projects with industry partners, giving students access to real-world experience and providing businesses with the services of the university.

Plans call for the fourth and fifth floors, about 13,000 square feet each, to be leased to commercial tenants, most likely technology companies.

As for the sixth floor, Walter Iwanenko Jr., vice president for academic affairs at Gannon, said Gannon is working with a corporate partner that has experience in building data centers in older buildings.

"We are looking at not only housing our own data, but Erie has been overlooked as a perfect

location to store data" for companies in need of a second, off-site location, he said.

What makes Erie a good fit for a data center?

Proximity, mostly. It's within a 150 miles of three major population centers and it's not prone to earthquakes or hurricanes.

For Iwanenko, this investment feels like the right move at the right time, both for the university and for the city.

He explained why recently as he looked out the south-facing, fourth-floor windows and across the street to the former Rothrock Building, where \$8.5 million transformed it into a new home for Velocity Network and, at least temporarily, a home for the Erie Innovation District.

The job outlook numbers seem to justify the programs themselves.

But it is the activity in the community around Gannon that's helping fuel the university's confidence that not only will students enroll, but that businesses will lease space and data center clients will choose Erie.

"We are extremely confident," Iwanenko said. "We wouldn't invest \$27 million into a project that we weren't confident in. I think we are gathering steam in this block. I think the momentum is starting to build. We believe a lot of magic is going to happen. We believe this is going to be a community asset."

For now, this fortress

of a concrete and steel building is a mostly blank slate, a construction zone, where old materials are being stripped away to make way for new heating and ventilation equipment and other infrastructure.

Vernaza, who explained that plans call for construction to be complete by the fall of 2021, found her words

interrupted recently as she toured the building by the sounds of construction equipment and garbage sliding down a chute.

Bartlett and Detzel, now in their second semester in the I-HACK program, haven't taken a class in the new building yet, but say they're happy to be on the ground floor of a new program.

Bartlett said, "Being an adult student, I want to get the most productive degree, the thing that will do the most for me and the thing that will launch my career."

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Gannon University is investing millions on new curriculum and facilities for a future in cybersecurity

By Jim Martin
jmartin@timesnews.com

Nineteen-year-old Austin Detzel, of Wattsburg, has always loved electronics and computers. When he talks about the internet of things, he speaks of the IOT in the shorthand that friends speak of one another.

It's no surprise he was one of the first in line when Gannon University began enrolling students last fall for the first semester of its cyber engineering program.

Victoria Bartlett, of North East, followed a different route to Gannon's companion program in cybersecurity, both part of the I-HACK or the Institute for Health and Cyber Knowledge.

After high school she went to work at Sander's Market, where she and her employer, which operates seven stores, discovered she had an aptitude for computers and information technology.

For all the talk of cybersecurity — and there's a lot of it — and the demand for thousands and thousands of graduates with skills in cybersecurity and cyber engineering, Bartlett, Detzel and Gannon find themselves on the cutting edge.

And that can be an uncomfortable place to be.

Only a relative handful of programs in cybersecurity and cyber engineering exist at the moment.

In many cases, accreditation guidelines are still being developed, said Karinna Vernaza, dean of the college of business and engineering at Gannon.

She's not worried about that. Gannon has a history of its programs being smoothly accredited and she expects it to continue.

See BETTING, L2



Plotting a new course

Erie Innovation District plans for investing in the YMCA building set aside

By Jim Martin
Erie Times-News

There's usually room to argue about the relative success of anything.

But there's little debate about this: Seven technology-focused startup companies are based in Erie today and more are likely to come, thanks to seed money provided by a \$10 million

Erie-specific fund created by CapZone Impact Investments. It's unlikely any of that would have happened were it not for the creation, three years ago, of the Erie Innovation District.

But the EID, which has introduced 17 companies to Erie through the Secure Erie Accelerator program, is going through a reboot of sorts.

That reboot comes on the heels of a decision late last year by the EID's newly independent board not to renew the contract of Karl Sanchack,

who was hired in September of 2017 to serve as the CEO of the newly formed organization, led initially by Mercyhurst University.

And now, about two months later, the Erie Innovation District's board is working on a plan to map out its future.

Change seems certain. Jim Martin, regional president of Northwest Bank and chairman of the EID board, said he and Keith Kennedy, a vice

See DISTRICT, A8



Special section inside today

Erie 2020, our annual economic report on the region, features 40 pages of stories about area businesses, new projects and programs at area universities. You can find additional content, including graphics and videos, at GoErie.com/Topics/Erie-2020

president at Erie Insurance and a fellow board member, have spent a great deal of time talking to people who have a stake in Erie's business and growing technology community.

Martin said they've been met with broad agreement on one key point.

"Almost everyone we have talked to hopes and thinks it should continue," Martin said of the Innovation District. "They think it has made a lot of progress. Nobody I have talked to said it should end."

But there is question of who picks up the bill.

In a December interview, Martin said, "One of the things we would like is for the EID to be self-sufficient and not have to rely on grants from funders. We would like this thing to stand on its own."

The group was launched with the backing of Mercyhurst University and a \$4 million grant from the Erie Community Foundation, the Susan Hirt Hagen Fund for Transformational Philanthropy and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority.

For now, a few sources of income are apparent.

Both Mike Batchelor, president of the Erie Community Foundation, and Tim NeCastro, CEO of Erie Insurance, have said their organizations plan to help fund the Innovation District, at least through the end of the year.

"We need to help the Innovation District find out how it can best serve the community," NeCastro said in a recent interview with the Erie Times-News. "We are in a position to help fund that operation through 2020, along with the Erie Community Foundation."

But it seems as if Erie Insurance, a key source of funding, would like the organization, based in the Velocity Network building, to change course, at least slightly.

"I think it has to be more focused on business development activities," NeCastro said.

There seems to be general agreement that the accelerator programs, which brought new startups to Erie, are an example of what the EID did well.

"I think (those) are the things that have the most promise for this market," NeCastro said. "We would like to have the money to see



Rebecca Styn, 43, at left, is the vice president of ventures at the Erie Innovation District. Jim Martin, 59, at right, is the EID board chairman.

that continue."

The continuation of such programs is the closest thing to a certainty for the EID.

Martin said the board intends to move forward with at least one accelerator this year.

No date has been set yet and no focus for this year's accelerator has been selected, said Rebecca Styn, vice president of ventures for the EID. Among other subjects, she said the EID will be looking at the areas of focus that have been highlighted by the Erie Regional Chamber and Growth Partnership.

Meanwhile, Martin said the board will be meeting soon with CapZone to learn more about its plans for supporting startups in Erie.

"We don't know for sure

how they plan to invest that money. It's not locked up," Martin said. "It's very possible it could be used to fund an accelerator. I will know more once we meet face-to-face with CapZone."

One thing seems clear.

In June, the Erie Innovation District announced it was working on a plan to relocate its office and offices for startup businesses to between 36,000 and 40,000 square feet of space in the Downtown YMCA building. The EID planned to renovate the exterior of the seven-story building and renovate and occupy space on the fourth, fifth and sixth floors. The organization last year sought but was turned down for a \$6.2 million request from the state

Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program.

Sanchack had said the project could move forward without the grant money, but Martin said that's not going to happen anytime soon.

"There is not going to be a real estate play unless someone comes in and says they want to invest a significant amount of money," he said. "That was a nice idea Karl had, but it's not cheap."

In different communities, Innovation Districts play different roles.

In Erie, the role of so-called placemaking is being pursued by the Erie Downtown Development Corp. and other developers, NeCastro said.

Although the EID has a four-member board, which includes former Chairman Joe NeCastro as well as Sanchack, the former CEO, Martin said he and Kennedy have been taking the lead for now as they work to reinvent the organization.

He's hoping to reach some conclusions this spring.

Michael Victor, president of Mercyhurst University, which oversaw the Innovation District initially, is hoping the new model bears some resemblance to the old.

In a statement, the university touted the success of EID under Sanchack's direction.

"Under Mercyhurst University's leadership, the Erie Innovation District thrived, establishing productive partnerships, creating investment opportunities, bringing new businesses and "Secure Smart City" technology to Erie, while shaping an innovation ecosystem."

Victor believes believes the overall shape of the original model is worth preserving.

"Businesses from the West Coast have come to Erie and some have stayed," he said. "I think that was a good business model."

While bringing out-of-town businesses to Erie has been seen as a victory, Martin said the board is also looking for ways to involve local entrepreneurs.

"We would like to see job creation," he said. "If there is a way to involve local entrepreneurs we would be really excited about that."

Kennedy said he and Martin have come away from their talks with the community with a strong sense that the EID has done something good.

But neither he nor Martin is promising the new EID will look like the old one.

"I think we are still working through it," Kennedy said.

Contact Jim Martin: jmartin@timesnews.com. Follow him on Twitter @etnmartin.



RESOLUTION NUMBER 1, 2020

Resolution to adopt the Funding for the Summer Jobs & More Program

Whereas, ECGRA's mission of economic and community development recognizes the importance of local government, businesses, and citizen groups working together in a public-private partnership to address the needs of youth development;

Whereas, the Economic Development Financing Law recognizes that economic insecurity due to unemployment is at any time a serious menace to the people of the Commonwealth in areas of urban and rural blight;

Whereas, the Economic Development Financing Law states expressly that entities like ECGRA may have as one of its purposes the alleviation or elimination of unemployment;

Whereas, ECGRA's Strategic Plan recognizes that regional asset funding is to provide basic services that address the needs of our most vulnerable, including youth that are challenged by circumstances of economic disadvantage;

Whereas, programs that develop the next generation through employment opportunities and career pathways are necessary components of a healthy community;

Whereas, Erie County Council and multiple private and nonprofit funders have approved matching funds for the Summer Jobs & More Program (the "Program") to the extent outlined in attached Exhibit "A" meeting ECGRA's minimum 1-1 match (the "Match Funding")

Whereas, the funders have requested \$150,000 from ECGRA ("ECGRA Funding");

Whereas, the Match Funding and ECGRA Funding represent the total funding for the Program (the "Program Funding");

Whereas, additional funding has been applied for through the organization acting on behalf of the Workforce Investment Board and other financial partners that could possibly enhance or replace Program Funding this fiscal year ("Supplemental Funding");

Whereas, ECGRA believes, as a good steward of the Gaming Funds, that, in the event that Supplemental Funding is received this fiscal year, the amount of the ECGRA Funding shall be proportionately reduced by a fraction representing the ECGRA Funding divided by the total Program Funding;

Whereas, ECGRA declares the milestones are to be measured throughout the summer of 2020 and analyzed in accordance with the Program contract;

Whereas, ECGRA believes the stipulations resulting from the careful deliberation of Erie County Council on reporting and the use of Erie County funding creates a wise and appropriate framework to be applied to ECGRA funding as well;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, pursuant to the Economic Development Financing Law and the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority Bylaws, resolves to adopt the summer jobs pilot project to the extent outlined in this Resolution and attachments.

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____.

This resolution was passed on the 20th day of February 2020 by a vote of _____ - _____.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Chairman, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
February 20, 2020

ATTEST:

Secretary, ECGRA

Request for ECGRA Funding – 2020 Erie County Summer Jobs and More (JAM) Program

Since 2014, Erie County government has worked with the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and The Erie Community Foundation to provide funding for the Summer JAM Program, which creates employment opportunities for young adults. These participants – all ages 16 to 21 – receive training in the soft skills needed to become successful employees, and then apply those skills on the job at area businesses.

In its sixth year, Summer JAM already has a record of success that proves its value to its employer partners: In 2019, the program saw an 88% success rate, with 137 young participants successfully completing the summer employment. To date, approximately \$2 million has been invested into this initiative while assisting over 915 youths in the county.

Now, Summer JAM is ready to grow. With more employers joining the effort, participants will be exposed to a greater variety of industries and operations. It is those on-the-job experiences that can lead young people to pursue paths to education or pique their interest in future careers – scenarios that reflect not just the goal of Summer JAM, but an essential outcome for our community overall.

The young participants have pledged to attend training and to become hard-working members of the local workforce.

Erie County and other leaders are committed to securing this future with continued funding that provides for the training and employment of Summer JAM’s young participants. We need your support to continue this winning formula for our community’s future.

Projected 2020 Major Funding Commitments:

Erie County	\$150,000
ECGRA	\$150,000
Erie Community Foundation	<u>\$ 60,000</u>
	\$360,000

