



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
VIA ZOOM/In Person
Knowledge Park; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510
July 15, 2021

ZOOM Meeting Information:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85446970017>

Meeting ID: 854 4697 0017
Password: not required

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 2021
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. Resolution Number 9, 2021 – Resolution to enter into agreements with eight (8) Erie County community organizations and municipalities engaged in Parks, Fields, & Trails as part of the Community Assets
- b. Resolution Number 10, 2021 – Resolution to accept the 2020-21 Audited Financial Statements

14. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, August 19, 2021
Time: 8:30 a.m. – BOARD Meeting
Location: 5240 Knowledge Parkway, Erie, PA 16510; Jordan Room
ZOOM meeting – details to follow



Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting

June 17, 2021

Meetings for the Board of Directors of ECGRA can begin meeting in a physical location per Governor Wolf's proclamation of June 11, 2021. However, each member and ex-officio has the option to attend in person or virtually. Members of the public can now speak at the physical location of 5240 Knowledge Parkway.

CALL TO ORDER

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on June 17, 2021 at 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. Cleaver, and Ms. Loll are present via Zoom. Mr. DiPaolo, Mr. Paris and Mr. Sample are present in person. Mr. Wachter, Mr. Lee are present via Zoom, and Dr. Wood is present in person.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Sample makes a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Cleaver seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the agenda. Motion carries 6-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 2021

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the minutes. Mr. Sample seconds the motion. There is no discussion on the minutes. Motion carries 6-0.

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

There are no comments at this time.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Barney: I would like to thank everyone for putting forth the effort to make our meetings work during this time of COVID. I know it has been a challenge, so I thank you.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There is no public present for comments.

PRESENTATIONS

- a. Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania – Erika Berlin

Dr. Wood: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Our first presenter that is here today is Erika Berlin. Erika is with the Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania, commonly known as the Film Office. We have a Pilot Project in front of you for your review today and Erika is going to give you a brief presentation on the contents of that pilot project. I will turn it over to you, Erika.

Ms. Berlin: Good morning, everyone. I want to thank the Board for having me here today; I know I only have a few minutes for my presentation. I'm Erika Berlin and I'm here to speak on behalf of the Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania. We are a nonprofit organization, and like Perry said, today I am speaking on behalf of the Greater Erie Film Office, which is actually a program of the Film Society. If you don't mind, I'm going to share my screen.

I submitted the Pilot grant request and Perry so generously invited me to do so after I had bothered him for some time. This is a phase 2 of the Film Industry Regional Expansion. ECGRA supported our grant request to create a website, filmerie.com; that was the first step for us. We are attracting filmmakers to our region, and we are doing that because we are living in a State that provides incentive to filmmakers with a generous film tax credit. But our State is also very attractive to filmmakers because we are very unique, especially here in Erie County.

Mostly Pittsburgh and Philadelphia are cities that we think of when it comes to filmmaking, but Erie County is the only county that has a coastline in our State. We have generous resources with our universities, creating those resources, and a lot of filmmaking talent that you may not think of. So, our county is very marketable to filmmakers, with a low cost of living and let's face it, a low cost of resources.

Our Pennsylvania film tax credit, 25% of a budget is available for tax credit if 60% of that budget is spent in the State. A lot of films are made here, and you wouldn't believe it but actually 50% of those tax credits are awarded to film budgets of \$1 million or less. So, those are the films that we are targeting here. We are not making \$8 million films here; we're making films with budgets of \$1 million or less. Actually, those that have been successful have been \$300,000 - \$500,000 films.

I have been asked a lot if the film tax credit is awarded by the State, then Pittsburgh gets 50% and Philadelphia gets 50%. That's not true. It is awarded on a first come, first-served basis.

A film tax credit requires some lobbying, some assistance and a film office is actually necessary to help films get that assistance to help them work through the application, to help

them go to the State film office to be able to say, "We need to help this film get their tax credit." So, the film office is really helpful for that local film production to get that tax credit.

Right now, there is a lobby going on to the State to increase that cap from \$70,000, which is what it is currently, to \$120,000 because we have to compete with states like Georgia which has an uncapped film tax credit. One of the interesting things about Georgia is it literally didn't have a tax credit before, but it has increased and the investment in the state of Georgia has increased where someone like Tyler Perry has built soundstages and now, they have a whole industry that is built up in that state just because of the tax credit over that past 15 years. So, an industry can build an estate outside of California just because of investment.

That's not necessarily happening yet in Erie County, but we know that investment in a county just means that you can build studios, you can train people to do work, and that is a draw for filmmakers. That actually empowers people in that county to start projects and to invest in projects. It's all connected to each other to create films and to build an industry, and ultimately to create jobs. We have a very attractive county.

You probably have heard that Undercover Billionaire happened here two years ago. Well, they came back to our city this past fall; the Undercover Comeback City was back again! The Greater Erie Film Office had a very important role in the first season and a very important role in the second season. We actually helped bring them here and keep them here. Carl Buelle actually gave us another wonderful endorsement, and I wanted to give you some statistics of how we participated in this second season.

They hired six people locally and for 3 ½ months, they rented two floors of a local hotel, they rented one private dwelling, and they rented local equipment from a local production company throughout their entire production. And that was just one local production. If we keep attracting, not just television shows because this was a unique experience, but with proper marketing, we can attract filmmakers and \$300,000 budgets, \$750,000 budgets, or \$1 million budgets – if we have two or three of these coming through with two-to-three-month productions, this is the kind of thing that they will do. They are not necessarily going to come in for three or four days; they may come in for several months and this is what they will be doing.

We have had two studies that were done in the past five years that have only scraped the surface. The Film Society actually went to the Data Center at the Chamber, and they did a brief look at what a film budget would look like, and they came up with a 2.5 multiplier, but there is so much more that we need to do. If you read the grant proposal, you'll see that an economic impact study requires so much more to look at. The Erie Forward study that they also conducted, they projected that there would be a growth in the film industry.

Again, there are so many objectives to hit in an economic impact study, so what we want to do is a report that quantifies the impact of the film industry and develops the scenarios of that projected growth. We want to be interviewing the people working locally. The Film Office knows all of these people and these resources because we are the ones that need to recommend those resources when films are coming here and asking who they need to call for sound engineers, camera operators, etc. We know these people. If someone comes in from the outside, for example Garner Economics, they didn't interview those people; they didn't know what their future ideas were; they didn't know what their projects were. This study is going to be talking to those folks.

Learning from other cities like Erie, the next step that the Data Center was going to look at that we didn't have any money to fund was looking into cities like Erie across the country and figuring what they have done what we could do. It's actually not that easy to do because I think there are about five cities that Erie is compared to when their economic studies are done, and I think that Green Bay, WI is one and Kalamazoo, MI is another. But

none of those have film offices and none of those states have incentive programs like we do. So, it takes a little more investigation to figure out who we need to compare ourselves to.

Then there is looking at the actual economic impact and doing an analysis using that plan and doing the in-depth analysis that needs to happen. All of those things are part of what we need to do with this economic impact study that this grant would be funding. The outcome would then be this final report that we can take to potential funders, that we can take to the State, that we can lobby with because every year we need to get some funding that is potentially going to other State film offices that supports the basic staff and the basic marketing efforts and the basic arts that can give the staff the ability to help with the filing for the tax credits. That's an important piece.

According to the AFCL, which is the Association of Film Commissioners International, film offices cannot accept payments for what they do. A film office doesn't say, "Yeah, we can help you, but you have to pay us." Film offices do not do that; it is a free service.

A lot of film offices work through the local tourism office, and prior to the Film Office being formed, Visit Erie was receiving all the requests and they really were not able to support those requests and they handed them off to the Film Society because we were the ones who had the connections in the community, and we have been doing that ever since 2013. We need to continue that work, but we also need to work in collaboration with Visit Erie and some of those things are future goals for us. The collateral to market our city is an important piece of why we need to fund the Film Office.

With COVID, everyone has been virtual so taking this report to local funders and state funders, everyone is excited to get back to work. So, taking on this momentum of not only just funding, but filmmakers in general, everyone is excited to get back to work and get their projects going again after everything has been shut down.

But there is a big picture here. The arts community here in Erie is very much thriving and filmmaking is a part of that. Education is very important too. In terms of jobs, you have to educate people to be filmmakers. It's not just in front of the camera and creative people who are writing scripts. It's people behind the camera and people being sound engineers and the postproduction. It's people holding mics and people operating cameras, and it's also people building sets. You're using carpenters and electricians; you have to use cables and hook things up to generators.

Dr. Wood: I just want to give you a quick time check; we're at 11 ½ minutes.

Ms. Berlin: Okay. Let me close with this. This young man is Alex Staley; he did an education program with the Film Society and now, years later, he has submitted a film to a local film festival. He is a really great success story for us. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to speak today; my apologies for going over time. Thank you, again.

Dr. Wood: Great job. Let's turn it over to the Board for any questions.

Mr. Lee: Thank you, Dr. Wood, and thank you, Erika, for your presentation. So, Erika, what are you looking for ECGRA to do as far as from the financial aspect? Are looking to us to invest in the project as far as for this economic study, and if so, what amount are you looking for at this time?

Ms. Berlin: I am looking for \$15,000 to fund half of the economic impact study. I have a commitment from Kathy Dahlkemper with the County to fund \$10,000 of it and another

commitment from Visit Erie to fund \$2,500. So that brings the total to \$27,500 for the cost of the impact study.

Mr. Lee: Okay. The second question I have, Erika, how soon are you looking to have this study done? What's the timeline on it?

Ms. Berlin: We want to conduct the study immediately. We will be working with Parker Philips, who will be conducting the study, they are ready to do the study immediately and they can complete it in 100 days they believe. In terms of payment for the study, they can work with us in terms of when that occurs. They know that their payment is subject to when we receive payment. We want to have the study done as soon as possible because we know that we will get some other funding from the County to get started on a lot of this work that we would like to get done. That will happen sometime this fall, so we want to get the study done as soon as possible.

Mr. Lee: Thank you, Erika.

Ms. Berlin: You're welcome.

Dr. Wood: Erika, you mentioned peer market research, comparing us to other cities, and how that was difficult because many communities our size don't have film offices. Have you determined what communities you will compare us to?

Ms. Berlin: I'm sorry, did you say have we determined what cities we will be compared to?

Dr. Wood: Yes, what communities you can compare with Erie.

Ms. Berlin: Well, that's part of the research. We've already been looking. We've looked in Indiana because Indiana had an interesting case because they hired a film commissioner for the State from California. They established a film program at the State level, but they could not attract enough films and they had to cancel their program after a few years. At the legislative level they gave it a shot and they had to cancel it.

Dr. Wood: Erika, was that program a combination of tax credits and film office assistance?

Ms. Berlin: It was, and they're still trying to do it, but they had to reduce their tax credit program. We tried to compare to some of those cities, and we actually reached out to - I think it was Evansville, IN - because that was one of the cities that was on the list of who we compare ourselves to according to the Data Center. It wasn't successful there, but it's really hard to compare because Pennsylvania has such a different tax credit system.

Dr. Wood: (inaudible)

Ms. Berlin: It's really hard to hear you, Perry.

Dr. Wood: Sorry. So, it's higher incentives and it's more aggressive in the State of Pennsylvania.

Ms. Berlin: Absolutely. And I think Pennsylvania just has a better reputation and Pennsylvania has more resources in general. Indiana is a very rural state and it's just not working as hard to attract; it just doesn't have the same kind of marketing effort. Pennsylvania has a stronger reputation. I think that the State Film Office does a decent job, but one of the things that I'm interested in within this study is – within the grant request it details this a little bit – but, there is an opportunity for a stronger relationship between the Erie Film Office and Pittsburgh because some of the opportunities for the Film Office here and the needs of the films in Pittsburgh, we can meet the needs of some of the films that are actually shooting in Pittsburgh because we have things that Pittsburgh doesn't. So, some of the films going to Pittsburgh could actually be recommended to come here instead. They serve a lot of really big productions, but we have a lot of things that Pittsburgh doesn't. We are looking at building a stronger relationship with Pittsburgh.

Dr. Wood: Thank you. Are there any other questions from Board members? We have time for one more question. Hearing none, thank you very much, Erika. You did a great job.

Ms. Berlin: Thank you so much; and again, I'm sorry for going over time. I appreciate your time this morning.

Dr. Wood: Thanks for being with us. Now, let's turn it over to our auditors.

b. Maher Duessel – Michelle Bryan, Amanda Jaros

Ms. Bryan: Good morning. I'm Michelle Bryan and I serve as one of the partners for Maher Duessel CPAs. With me today is Amanda Jaros, who serves as one of the supervisors who was involved in your audit. I am the Engagement Quality Control partner; your actual audit partner was unable to attend the meeting.

I'm going to walk you through the Communication to Those Charged with Governance and then I will turn things over to Amanda to review the financial statements. If anyone has any questions throughout, feel free to chime in or we can take them at the end.

Our responsibility under Generally Accepted Accounting Standards is to issue an opinion on the financial statements. They are management's financial statements and management is responsible for the adoption of the Significant Accounting Policies within the Notes. The Significant Accounting Policies are described in Note 2 of your financial statements. There were no new Notes adopted in the current year, no GASB's that were required to be adopted that affected the Authority, so you'll see that information found in Note 2 to be very consistent with what it has been in the prior years.

Your statements do include estimates; all accrual-based statements do include some matters of estimates on things like receivables and payables. You do have one estimate that is more sensitive and that relates to the Allowance for Uncollectible Notes Receivable. That estimate is based upon management's evaluation of the current Note portfolio, current economic conditions, and other factors within your judgement. So, that collectability, that is something that is an estimate.

Your Disclosures and Statements are considered neutral, consistent, and clear. The most significant disclosures in your Footnotes include the one discussing the Irrevocable Gifts to the Erie Community Foundation; that's the Lead Asset Endowment Fund that is held by the Authority. That is not recorded on your financial statements because it is under the variance power of the Erie Community Foundation.

The Notes Receivable Footnote, that's Note 6, that details out each of the Notes Receivable that is held by the Authority, who they are to, and the amounts included on the statements regarding that.

There is also a Footnote on COVID-19 and the uncertainty around the pandemic and how we don't know what the future impact of federal and state legislation will have on the fundings that come both to the Authority and to all organizations.

We had no difficulties in performing the audit. There were no corrected or uncorrected misstatements. This is always important for the Board to understand because what it means is that throughout the year, the statements that you are getting are accurate and you don't need the auditors to come in at year end and make material adjustments to your statements in order that they are in accordance with GAAS. That is always something that is important for management to know that your auditors aren't coming in and making a lot of adjustments at year end.

We had no disagreements with management. These are still draft statements. We will obtain representation before they are issued. There was no consultation with other independent accountants and there were no issues discussed regarding our retention as auditors.

I'm going to turn it over to Amanda for the statements themselves and again, if there are any questions, chime in at any point.

Ms. Jaros: Good morning. As Michelle mentioned, my name is Amanda Jaros; I'm the supervisor on the audit this year so I worked directly with Tammi and Perry, and we just want to thank them for their cooperation with the audit. It went very smoothly, so we appreciate that.

I'm just going to go over a couple slides here of the financial statements. Our job as auditors is to express an opinion on the financial statements. It is management's responsibility for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control as well as the fair presentation of the financial statements. We did issue an unmodified opinion; that is the highest-level opinion that we can issue for an audit, which is great.

This next page is a summary of your financial statements. At year-end, you are sitting at cash at approximately \$10.1 million, with some prepaid expenses of approximately \$7,000, and Notes Receivable of \$6.1 million. This leaves you at a Net Position as Restricted at \$16.2 million. It did increase slightly from last year and in the next page we will go over that.

This is your summary statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in net position, which is also like an income statement. You can see here that the gaming revenue is pretty consistent with the previous year. You will see that there is an increase this year with the COVID-19 revenue that was previously not received, as well as additional contributions of \$25,000. Interest from Notes Receivable was also consistent with the prior year. Due to the COVID-19 revenue, that did cause an increase in your operating revenue of approximately \$300,000.

You have operating expenses, which is primarily the grants awarded that is at \$3.9 million. That is a bit of an increase from last year as well due to that additional funding that was received. The other operating expenses shown total approximately \$620,000. That is a change in your net position from last year of about \$365,000, which again is due to the increase in operating revenue.

Mr. Lee: Amanda, this is Gary Lee. I have a couple basic questions before we move on. The COVID-19 revenue of \$250,000, where is that coming from? And also, the contribution of \$25,000?

Ms. Jaros: The COVID-19 revenue came directly from Erie County, and the contribution came from – I'll have to stop sharing my screen so I can look it up – the contribution came from Bliley, that they set aside for a contingency for donating to entities that were doing business in regards to a face shield project. Those funds went to the Immediate Human Relief Fund.

Mr. Lee: Okay. Thank you.

Ms. Jaros: You're welcome. That is actually the end of our presentation at this time.

Dr. Wood: Thank you very much, Michelle and Amanda. From a Board perspective, this is the draft audit, and everybody has a copy of it. You have now seen a presentation from the auditors themselves, so this is your chance to ask any questions. Of course, if you have questions later, you can always follow up either directly with the auditors or with the staff and we can compile those questions and give them to the auditors.

Typically, our process is the Board is presented with the information and then at the July Board Meeting, we will see a final copy and the Board will pass it as a resolution. This is really important because we are mandated to perform one of these audits by Erie County government and then once the Board has passed it, we will turn the audit in to all the appropriate authorities at Erie County to become a permanent record.

Does anyone have any questions at this time?

Mr. Cleaver: Perry, I just wanted to go on record and say that I had a brief conversation with the auditors and our discussion boiled down to no findings. I wanted to make mention that I did touch base with Amanda in reference to the presentation.

Dr. Wood: That's a great point. Thank you, Mr. Cleaver. Part of our process, is of course, the Treasurer as a representative of the Board, interacts directly with the auditors, they have a conversation, although I don't know what that is like because the staff is not a part of it. That is part of the checks and balances. Thank you for bringing that up, Mr. Cleaver.

If you don't have questions at this time, but they do come up, don't hesitate to reach out to us or the auditors directly and we will get all of your questions answered. Thank you, Michelle and Amada for being here with us today.

Ms. Bryan: Thank you very much for your time today. We always appreciate Board interaction.

Mr. Barney: Thank you for the presentation. As Dr. Wood mentioned, if anyone on the Board does have a question later, please feel free to contact the auditors so when we meet in July, we will be able to move right along.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Cleaver: I reviewed the financial report with Dr. Wood and found no problems. I will let him continue with the expenses.

Mr. Sample makes a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Mr. DiPaolo seconds the motion. There are no questions or discussion of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carries 6-0.

b. Strategic Planning Committee: Mr. Paris: We have not met so there is nothing to report.

Mr. Barney: I was informed that we will need to get together prior to the July Board meeting, so Board members, look out for the invite. Will we be meeting in person, Dr. Wood?

Dr. Wood: No, we can do that over Zoom.

c. Update from County Council: Mr. Anderson is not present to give an update.

d. Update from County Executive's Office: Mr. Lee: Before I give my remarks, it's great to see Mr. Tim Wachter back. Tim, you were in our prayers and thoughts. We are glad to see you back. You're looking great!

I am going to be brief. The Summer Jobs Program is up and running. We appreciate the investment by ECGRA. We have about 108 students at this time participating in the program and 52 employers. The breakdown of the 52 employers is there are 40 of them returning and we have 12 new ones; 26 of them are inside the City of Erie and 26 of them are outside the City of Erie, which is a great balance. There are 19 nonprofits and 33 for-profit. These are great numbers, and we are looking forward to an exciting year.

Last year was the first year we had done things virtual as far as orientation. They are doing a virtual orientation this year and are working very closely with the employers to make sure they are adhering to the CDC guidelines as it pertains to COVID-19. Our Health Department was a part of the orientation to explain and to share the expectations as they go on these worksites. We are very excited. Are there any questions about the Summer Jobs & More Program for this year?

Mr. Barney: What is their starting rate this year?

Mr. Lee: Thank you, Mr. Barney. Minimum wage is \$7.25. Last year, because of COVID-19, we raised the rate to \$8.25. We decided to keep it at \$8.25 this year. That is really good because every dollar counts, especially for young men and women, and we are very pleased with that. Thank you for bringing that question up, Mr. Barney.

If there are no further questions, that concludes my report, Mr. Chairman.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wood: Good morning, everyone. There is an Executive Director's Report in your packet. You can see there that first quarter revenue for the year did come in – approximately \$332,000. That is right on track with where we have been at in the past, especially since 2019 when the State started prorating our distribution at a different level. You can compare that to 2016 when we got \$271,000, and you can see that we're ahead of the ballgame. That's steady, it's flowing, and it's to be expected.

There is a summary of Municipal Collaboration projects that are in the packet that the staff conducted. There were only four projects that came in and I think that's reflective of the times we are in, but all four are good projects and the staff is recommending them to you for funding today. There is a nice letter from the Gertrude Barber Center, thanking us for our ongoing support and that is followed by the usual newspaper clippings.

I'll wrap it up by saying that I would like the Board to think about the fact that we are in unprecedented times when it comes to grant dollars. The County has \$50 million on the way from the federal government, the City has \$70 million, the School Districts all have huge multi-million-dollar

funds on their way in. How this affects ECGRA and the role we play in it is still being discussed by many policy makers. Certainly, as a Board of Directors, we ought to be thinking about it and part of the discussion today with New Localism Associates is discussing the convening role that we play since we have constant contact with economic development agencies, nonprofits, and municipal governments. Does anyone have any questions for me?

Mr. Lee: I have a question, Dr. Wood. Can you please provide the Board an update – I know that you were playing a key role with County Council as far as the Task Force that the Chairperson had put together. Can you just provide us an update as far as how that is going and what is happening with that particular Task Force?

Dr. Wood: Mr. Lee is referencing the COVID-19 Revitalization Task Force; I'll abbreviate it and call it that. That was convened by County Council. ECGRA was asked to participate in that, and we ended up playing basically a staffing and support role as well as a facilitation role. That primarily involved listening sessions; those listening sessions ended last month. The next step is for a report to be generated. Dr. Judy Lynch volunteered to write the report based on her analysis of those listening sessions, so we are very excited about that. We are waiting to see a draft copy of that report and then the next step would be for that draft report to be published as a useful document for policy makers.

Mr. Lee: Thank you, Dr. Wood.

Dr. Wood: Are there any other questions for me?

Mr. Barney: Thank you, Dr. Wood.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter: Thank you, Mr. Barney. I do have a few comments for you all this morning, the first of which is with respect to the Film Office and the Film Tax Credit. I used to have some involvement with that back in my days with the Commonwealth. One question that often came up was adult-oriented films. I can assure you that they are not eligible for the Film Tax Credit. In fact, there is someone who, as part of their job, is to read every script and make sure that they are not adult in nature. I just wanted you to know that we wouldn't have to worry about that in partnering with that group.

Secondly, on a personal front, I'd like to thank you all for your thoughts and your well wishes during my recovery and the space that the Gaming Authority, as well as all my clients, gave me to recover. If someone ever gives you the option between having an unplanned, fairly emergent open-heart surgery and chocolate cake, I assure you that you should take the cake. Thank you.

OLD BUSINESS

There is no Old Business to cover at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution Number 5, 2021 – Resolution to enter into agreements with four (4) entities as the recipients of the 2021 Multi-Municipal Collaboration Grant

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. DiPaolo makes a motion to adopt the resolution. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. There is no discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 5-0-1, with Mr. Sample abstaining.

- b. Resolution Number 6, 2021 – Resolution to enter into agreement with the Film Society of Northwestern Pennsylvania to fund a Pilot Project for an Economic Impact Study of the Film Industry Regional Expansion

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Sample makes a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Paris seconds the motion.

Mr. Cleaver: Mr. Chairman, I understood that young lady was looking for \$16,000. Am I looking at it correctly here, because it says \$15,000?

Mr. Barney: It says \$15,000, but I do have a question on that. The other portions she mentioned does not add up to \$15,000.

Dr. Wood: Erika excluded the fact that the Film Society itself will be putting in \$2,500.

Mr. Barney: Thank you. I just wanted that to be on record because she went to \$27,500.

Dr. Wood: That is what she says in the formal application.

There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- c. Resolution Number 7, 2021 – Resolution to renew the existing lease for one (1) year

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Cleaver makes a motion to accept the resolution. Mr. Sample seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- d. Resolution Number 8, 2021 – Resolution to enter into an agreement with New Localism Associates

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Sample: I make a motion to accept the resolution. Those are the three big players that have been involved since the beginning. I'm assuming this is something that Erie County needs; we need help to focus our efforts.

Mr. Paris seconds the motion.

Mr. Lee: Dr. Wood, I have a question. What would be the timeline for that project? Is there some timeline as far as working with New Localism Associates?

Dr. Wood: We already have plans to get it going, so it will start next week. I think the first thing will be to convene the City of Erie's business roundtable to meet with Dr. Katz. He also has something on the books to meet with both the Mayor and the County Executive. In fact, he has already had one conversation with the County Executive.

Mr. Lee: I think it's a great initiative. I don't have all the details on it, but Bruce Katz is, as we know, is a national and international figure so I think it's going to be great for our community. Thank you, Dr. Wood.

There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cleaver moves to adjourn.

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Profit & Loss
June 2021**

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2021-22 YTD</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
44800 · Gaming Revenue		332,414.20		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	600.09	2,181.07		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC - Erie Grow	7,583.33	7,583.33		
46424 · Interest Income - Progress Fund	5,000.00	5,000.00		
46425 · Interest Income - EDF Restruct		3,250.00		
46426 · Int. Income - BWC - Inclusive	6,319.44	6,319.44		
46427 · Interest Income - Blue Highway		0.00		
46428 · Interest Income - eCAT	2,556.00	5,112.00		
Total Income	<u>22,058.86</u>	<u>361,860.04</u>		
Expense				
62100 · Contracted Services	6,326.90	17,685.84	19,875.00	79,500.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	1,456.67	4,370.01	5,124.00	20,500.00
65000 · Office Administration	2,315.83	4,341.02	4,287.00	17,150.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	1,933.50	6,133.40	12,249.00	49,000.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	26,176.93	69,085.61	77,838.00	311,352.00
Total Expense	<u>38,209.83</u>	<u>101,615.88</u>	<u>119,373.00</u>	<u>477,502.00</u>
Net Ordinary Income	(16,150.97)	260,244.16		
Other Income/Expense				
70000 · Grants / Settlements / MRIs				
70030 · Community Assets				
70050 · Municipal Settlements		83,103.55		
70070 · Special Events	(851.77)	107,414.98		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration	147,000.00	147,000.00		
70100 · Mission Main Street	133,810.00	133,810.00		
70120 · Summer Jobs Program		8,221.67		
70125 · Neighborhoods & Communities MRI				
70130 · Small Business Financing		128,000.00		
70140 · Pilot Projects	15,000.00	15,000.00		
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow				
70170 · Renaissance Block		160,000.00		
70180 · Anchor Building				
Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements	<u>294,958.23</u>	<u>782,550.20</u>		
Net Other Income	(294,958.23)	(782,550.20)		
Net Income	<u>(311,109.20)</u>	<u>(522,306.04)</u>		

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Balance Sheet
As of June 30, 2021

	June
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	3,464.83
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10101 · Committed Funds	2,847,635.29
10102 · Restricted Funds	3,314,620.61
10100 · ErieBank - Savings - Other	3,403,172.26
Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings	9,565,428.16
Total Checking/Savings	9,568,892.99
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
12080 · NR - BWC - Resp Fund Sm Bus	520,000.00
12085 · NR - BWC - Resp Fund Nnprofit	100,000.00
12090 · Notes Receivable - eCAT	500,000.00
12900 · Reserve for Uncollectable Notes	(1,540,000.00)
Total 12000 · Notes Receivable	6,148,846.25
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	2,726.98
Total Other Current Assets	6,151,573.23
Total Current Assets	15,720,466.22
TOTAL ASSETS	15,720,466.22
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
20200 · Retirement Payable	(3,250.00)
Total Liabilities	(3,250.00)
Equity	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	2,927,064.18
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	13,318,340.55
Net Income	(521,688.51)
Total Equity	15,723,716.22
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	15,720,466.22

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Budget vs. Actual
June 2021

Expense	June	YTD	Budget	Over/(Under) Budget	% of Budget
62100 · Contracted Services					
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	7,100.00	15,000.00	(7,900.00)	47.33%
62130 · Professional Services	6,000.00	9,000.00	40,000.00	(31,000.00)	22.50%
62140 · Legal Services	247.00	627.00	20,000.00	(19,373.00)	3.14%
62145 · Website Design	0.00	717.99	3,000.00	(2,282.01)	23.93%
62150 · Payroll Services	79.90	240.85	1,500.00	(1,259.15)	16.06%
Total 62100 · Contracted Services	6,326.90	17,685.84	79,500.00	(61,814.16)	22.25%
62800 · Facilities & Equipment					
62840 · Office Equipment	0.00	0.00	2,500.00	(2,500.00)	0.00%
62890 · Rent	1,456.67	4,370.01	18,000.00	(13,629.99)	24.28%
Total 62800 · Facilities & Equipment	1,456.67	4,370.01	20,500.00	(16,129.99)	21.32%
65000 · Office Administration					
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Dues	1,300.88	1,951.88	3,000.00	(1,048.12)	65.06%
65020 · Postage	19.07	76.28	500.00	(423.72)	15.26%
65040 · Office Supplies	269.93	556.07	2,000.00	(1,443.93)	27.80%
65050 · Cell Phone	0.00	0.00	2,200.00	(2,200.00)	0.00%
65060 · Copier Lease	345.95	1,037.85	4,200.00	(3,162.15)	24.71%
65070 · Copier Printing Costs	0.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)	0.00%
65080 · Bank Fees	35.00	105.00	500.00	(395.00)	21.00%
65085 · Professional Development	345.00	550.93	2,000.00	(1,449.07)	27.55%
65090 · Meeting Expenses	0.00	63.01	2,000.00	(1,936.99)	3.15%
65095 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
Total 65000 · Office Administration	2,315.83	4,341.02	17,150.00	(12,808.98)	25.31%
65100 · Other Types of Expenses					
65105 · Outreach	142.94	352.82	5,000.00	(4,647.18)	7.06%
65110 · Advertising	138.20	138.20	4,000.00	(3,861.80)	3.46%
65115 · Phone/IT/Fax	817.86	3,138.88	18,000.00	(14,861.12)	17.44%
65120 · Insurance	834.50	2,503.50	10,100.00	(7,596.50)	24.79%
65130 · Grant Management Software	0.00	0.00	4,900.00	(4,900.00)	0.00%
65150 · Travel	0.00	0.00	7,000.00	(7,000.00)	0.00%
Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses	1,933.50	6,133.40	49,000.00	(42,866.60)	12.52%
66000 · Payroll Expenses					
66005 · Salaries & Wages	23,526.44	61,076.76	274,400.00	(213,323.24)	22.26%
66010 · FITW Tax	1,315.15	4,002.83	17,302.00	(13,299.17)	23.14%
66015 · FUTA Tax	0.00	0.00	150.00	(150.00)	0.00%
66020 · PASUI Tax	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	(2,000.00)	0.00%
66700 · PMRS	1,335.34	4,006.02	17,500.00	(13,493.98)	22.89%
Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses	26,176.93	69,085.61	311,352.00	(242,266.39)	22.19%
Total Expense	38,209.83	101,615.88	477,502.00	(375,886.12)	21.28%

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

Schedule of Grant Reserve

as of
June 30, 2021

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
Restricted Uncommitted Funds	3,314,620.61		
Committed Funds	2,847,635.29		

2020 Restricted Funds: (75% - after settlement payments)

First Quarter Gaming Revenue		332,414.20	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue			
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue			
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue			332,414.20

FY Disbursements:

First Quarter Disbursements	294,958.23	782,550.20	
Second Quarter Disbursements			
Third Quarter Disbursements			
Fourth Quarter Disbursements			782,550.20

Disbursements Detail

Grants/Settlements

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
MUNICIPALITIES			
Settlements			
Summit Township		37,396.60	
Greene Township		9,141.39	
McKean Township		9,141.39	
Millcreek Township		9,141.39	
Waterford Township		9,141.39	
Erie County		9,141.39	
			83,103.55
Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
Girard Township	17,000.00	17,000.00	
Impact Corry	25,000.00	25,000.00	
Jefferson Educational Society	100,000.00	100,000.00	
West Erie County EMA	5,000.00	5,000.00	
			147,000.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
June 30, 2021

	June	YTD	Subtotal
NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES			
Anchor Building			
Mission Main Street			
Our West Bayfront - 2019	133,810.00	133,810.00	133,810.00
Renaissance Block			
Borough of Union City - 2021		50,000.00	
Impact Corry - 2019		50,000.00	
Impact Corry - 2021		50,000.00	
Our West Bayfront		10,000.00	160,000.00
PILOT PROGRAMS			
Film Society of Northwestern PA	15,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00
QUALITY OF PLACE			
Community Assets			
Special Events			
Albion Area Fair, Inc.		12,268.75	
Borough of Edinboro		1,000.00	
Borough of Union City		300.00	
CAFE		3,875.00	
Corry Higher Education Council		500.00	
Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Foundation		18,820.00	
Edinboro University Foundation		1,212.00	
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre		4,044.00	
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.		5,000.00	
Saint Joseph Church		6,000.00	
Goodell Gardens & Homestead		1,115.00	
Iroquois School District Foundation		5,200.00	
Jefferson Educational Society of Erie		20,000.00	
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society	-2,250.00	0.00	
Mercy Center For Women	1,201.00	1,201.00	
Sacred Heart Church (2020)	197.23	197.23	
The Nonprofit Partnership		4,046.25	
Waterford Community Fair Association		8,950.00	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		9,700.00	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		3,600.00	
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie		385.75	107,414.98

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

Schedule of Grant Reserve

as of
June 30, 2021

	<u>June</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
SHAPING TOMORROW			
SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING			
Beehive Network			
Edinboro University Foundation		81,000.00	
Erie Regional Library Foundation		47,000.00	
		<u> </u>	<u>128,000.00</u>
YOUTH & EDUCATION			
Summer Jobs & More			
2020 Summer Jobs		8,221.67	
		<u> </u>	<u>8,221.67</u>
Total Funds Disbursements	294,958.23	782,550.20	782,550.20

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
June 30, 2021

		<u>June</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
Committed Funds:				
N&C	Renaissance Block 2018			
	1 Academy Neighborhood Association		11,250.00	22,500.00
	Our West Bayfront		0.00	100,000.00
	SSJ Neighborhood Network		7,000.00	70,000.00
	2 Bayfront Eastside Taskforce		25,000.00	50,000.00
	ServErie		29,000.00	58,000.00
	Renaissance Block 2020			
	Borough of Girard		25,625.00	51,250.00
	Borough of North East		30,000.00	60,000.00
	Borough of Union City		10,000.00	60,000.00
	Impact Corry		0.00	100,000.00
	Sisters of Mercy/House of Mercy		25,000.00	50,000.00
	YMCA of Greater Erie		25,000.00	50,000.00
	Renaissance Block 2021			
	Borough of Union City		50,000.00	100,000.00
	Impact Corry		50,000.00	100,000.00
	Anchor Building			
	18 Emmaus Ministries, Inc.		5,000.00	100,000.00
	Grace Church		0.00	100,000.00
	Performing Artists Collective Alliance		5,000.30	93,126.50
	19 Erie Masonic Temple Preservation Foundation		0.00	70,000.00
	Housing & Neighborhood Development Services		40,000.00	50,000.00
	Impact Corry		60,000.00	75,000.00
	Mission Main Street			
	1 Borough of North East		110,000.00	250,000.00
	City of Erie		225,000.00	250,000.00
	Erie Downtown Partnership		180,000.00	250,000.00
	2A Borough of Edinboro		34,900.00	250,000.00
	Borough of Union City		4,000.00	200,000.00
	2B Our West Bayfront	133,810.00	0.00	250,000.00
	Preservation Erie		122,000.00	150,000.00
	SSJ Neighborhood Network		55,500.00	250,000.00
	3 Borough of Girard		45,000.00	170,000.00
	Impact Corry		28,000.00	202,400.00
	Waterford Borough		84,600.00	249,800.00
MUN	Multi-Municipal Collaboration			
SB	Beehive Network			
	Edinboro University Foundation		5,000.00	200,000.00
	Erie Regional Library Foundation		5,877.00	200,000.00
	Gannon University		84,500.00	200,000.00
	Mercyhurst University		5,000.00	200,000.00
	Penn State University (Behrend)		100,000.00	200,000.00
PP	Pilot Program			
	Partnership for a Healthy Community		50,000.00	100,000.00

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Schedule of Grant Reserve
as of
June 30, 2021

Committed Funds (cont):

		<u>June</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
QP	Response Fund (COVID)			
	Small Business		680,000.00	1,200,000.00
	Non-Profit		300,000.00	400,000.00
Y&E	Shaping Tomorrow			
	Empower Erie - Community College		220,000.00	400,000.00
	GECAC - Summer Jobs Program 2020		110,382.99	150,000.00
Total Committed Funds		<u>133,810.00</u>	<u>2,847,635.29</u>	<u>7,082,076.50</u>

Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
Check Detail Report
June 2021

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
06/02/2021	EFT	Wells Fargo Financial Leasing	2021 June Copier Lease	-345.95
06/02/2021	EFT	Penn State University - Knowledge Park	2021 June Rent	-1,456.67
06/02/2021	EFT	Velocity Network, Inc.	2021 June Phone/IT	-794.36
06/03/2021	EFT	VISA	2021 May Statement	-2,101.32
06/08/2021	EFT	Parker Phillips	2021 April & May Services	-6,000.00
06/09/2021	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	5/22/21 to 6/4/21 Payroll	-8,774.23
06/09/2021	EFT	Fidelity Investments	5/22/21 to 6/4/21 Simple IRA	-250.00
06/09/2021	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 6/4/2021	-667.67
06/17/2021	EFT	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	2021 May Legal	-247.00
06/17/2021	EFT	Mercy Center for Women	2021 Special Events	-1,201.00
06/17/2021	EFT	Sacred Heart Church	2020 Special Events	-197.23
06/22/2021	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	6/5/21 to 6/18/21 Payroll	-9,312.48
06/22/2021	EFT	Fidelity Investments	6/5/21 to 6/18/21 Simple IRA	-250.00
06/22/2021	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 6/18/2021	-667.67
06/22/2021	EFT	Times Publishing Company	Meeting Publication	-138.20
06/25/2021	EFT	West Erie County EMA	2021 MMC	-5,000.00
06/25/2021	EFT	Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	2021 MMC	-100,000.00
06/25/2021	EFT	Girard Township	2021 MMC	-17,000.00
06/25/2021	EFT	Impact Corry	2021 MMC	-25,000.00
06/25/2021	EFT	Our West Bayfront	2019 MMS - Final Payment	-133,810.00
06/25/2021	EFT	Film Society of Northwestern PA	2021 Pilot Project	-15,000.00
06/30/2021	EFT	UPMC Health Plan	2021 June/July Payments	-6,834.78
06/30/2021	EFT	Erie Bank	Service Charge	-35.00

ERIEBANK

BL ACCT 00100029-10000000
ERIE COUNTY GAMING
Account Number: ####-####-####-8643
Page 1 of 3



SCORECARD CASHBACK CURRENT BALANCE \$0.00 CASHBACK PAYOUT DATE 05/15/2021

Account Summary		
Billing Cycle		05/10/2021
Days In Billing Cycle		31
Previous Balance		\$1,199.26
Purchases	+	\$2,101.32
Cash	+	\$0.00
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00
Special	+	\$0.00
Credits	-	\$0.00
Payments	-	\$1,199.26
Other Charges	+	\$0.00
Finance Charges	+	\$0.00
NEW BALANCE		\$2,101.32

Credit Summary	
Total Credit Line	\$40,000.00
Available Credit Line	\$37,898.68
Available Cash	\$37,898.68
Amount Over Credit Line	\$0.00
Amount Past Due	\$0.00
Disputed Amount	\$0.00

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

Payment Summary	
NEW BALANCE	\$2,101.32
MINIMUM PAYMENT	\$2,101.32
PAYMENT DUE DATE	06/04/2021

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	\$1,199.26-
Trans Date	Post Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
05/03	05/03	1596290993	INTERNET PMT-THANK YOU	\$1,199.26-

Cardholder Account Summary				
TAMMI MICHALI ####-####-####-8023	Payments & Other Credits \$0.00	Purchases & Other Charges \$2,101.32	Cash Advances \$0.00	Total Activity \$2,101.32

Cardholder Account Detail					
Trans Date	Post Date	Plan Name	Reference Number	Description	Amount
04/15	04/16	PBUS01	24789301105568802413038	ERIE TIMES NEWS CIRCULATI 814-8701600 PA	\$57.63 <i>Subscriber</i>
04/20	04/21	PBUS01	24692161111100146556920	IN *KINGPIN AWARDS 814-8351405 PA	\$38.00 <i>outreach</i>
04/21	04/22	PBUS01	24692161111100368066079	Amazon.com*VW3J133D3 Amzn.com/bill WA	\$449.25 <i>books</i>

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
05/10/21	\$2,101.32	\$2,101.32	06/04/21

\$

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



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
04/21	04/22	PBUS01	24692161111100485718487	STAMPS.COM 855-608-2677 CA	\$19.07
04/21	04/22	PBUS01	24013391111003035242336	YAPLES ERIE VACUUM ERIE PA	\$199.95
04/21	04/22	PBUS01	24435651111200142700035	LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACADEMY 412-586-5659 PA	\$20.00
04/22	04/23	PBUS01	24692161112100193465669	Amazon.com*LU9TX3WG3 Amzn.com/bill WA	\$69.98
04/25	04/26	PBUS01	24493981115083025595078	AT&T*BILL PAYMENT 800-331-0500 TX	\$23.50
04/28	04/29	PBUS01	24906411118119983329997	SMK*SURVEYMONKEY.COM 971-2311154 CA	\$104.94
05/05	05/06	PBUS01	24492151125852444760094	AMERICAN PLANNING A 312-431-9100 IL	\$325.00
05/05	05/06	PBUS01	24559301125900010103099	NONPROFIT PARTNERSHIP 814-2402490 PA	\$675.00
05/08	05/09	PBUS01	24692161129100539224433	Amazon Prime*2L22Q8HA1 Amzn.com/bill WA	\$119.00

postage
 o.s.
 prof. devel.
 o.s.
 phone/IT
 outreach
 prof. devel.
 membership
 subscript.

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 05/09/2021

SCORECARD	Beginning Balance	Current Earned	CashBack Adjusted	Ending Balance	CashBack Payout Date
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	05/15/2021

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	0.58333%(M)	7.0000%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$2,101.32
Cash									
CBUS01 001	CASH	G	\$0.00	0.58333%(M)	7.0000%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$0.00
* Periodic Rate (M)=Monthly (D)=Daily							Days In Billing Cycle: 31		
** 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.									



2021 Community Assets Grants Recipients

PARKS, FIELDS, & TRAILS

Organization	Project	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Borough of Edinboro	Edinboro Parks Beautification	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00
Borough of Girard	Wells Park - Phase 1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Borough of Union City	Southwest Park Project	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
City of Corry	North Hills Municipal Golf Course Building Improvements	\$25,000.00	\$12,500.00
City of Erie	Baldwin Park Pickleball Courts	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
Fairview Parks & Recreation Authority	Disc Golf Course at Pleasant Ridge	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	Goodell Gardens' Trail system, Phase 1	\$12,365.12	\$12,365.12
Headwaters NRC Trust	Headwaters Park Trail Improvement	\$9,295.00	\$9,295.00
Impact Corry	Filling an Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Gap in Corry	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
United Way of Erie County	Transforming Urban and Everyday Spaces into Early Learning Places	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL Requested		\$182,910.12	\$125,410.12



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

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT
FOR
JULY
2021**



INVESTING IN ERIE'S FUTURE, NOW.

A REPORT ON **ECGRA'S PARTNERSHIP WITH BRIDGEWAY CAPITAL**

Since 2016, the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA) has partnered with Bridgeway Capital to advance its mission to develop Erie's entrepreneurial ecosystem by spurring small business development. Bridgeway, headquartered in Pittsburgh with a satellite office in Erie, is a CDFI extending access to affordable and flexible capital to under-resourced, underestimated small and minority businesses and non-profits.



IGNITE Erie

Sparked by an initial \$1 million dollar investment from ECGRA, Bridgeway has made \$8 million in business loans available to 32 small business in Erie County since 2016 - that's a 700% return on investment. Important loans were granted in communities where businesses have helped create sustainable wages and revitalized the local economies they serve. The support of ECGRA's initial investment also spurred an additional \$3.2 million in private capital for small businesses

HOFFMAN UNITED

Hoffman United (HU) is a construction, property management, and investment company dedicated to being community leaders and redeveloping the Erie area. HU will make long-lasting economic impacts and help Erie thrive for years to come. Hoffman United's commitment to aiding in the development of downtown Erie through the procurement, rehabilitation, development, construction, and management of blighted/abandoned properties, makes them a crucial part of Erie's renaissance

Bridgeway provided Hoffman United a \$1,000,000 loan to support the acquisition of investment real estate in the City of Erie.

The portfolio includes 7 properties consisting of 34 apartments, 7 garages, and 1 commercial retail unit.

LL KURTZ

After decades of working as a mechanical engineer for other companies, Bill Kurtzhals started his own business, LL Kurtz, 20 years ago in Erie. LL Kurtz designs, manufactures, and tests engineered rubber parts from the ground up working with large clients like Firestone and the United States Government.

COVID-19 forced LL Kurtz into a tough spot, owing on equipment they'd purchased for growth that was derailed by the pandemic. Kurtzhals' local bank was unwilling to take on the refinancing. Bridgeway stepped in with a loan to help the company and save its employees but perhaps most importantly, it also allowed Kurtzhals to prepare for the business's next generation—to be led by his daughter, Leslie Paradisi.

“Working with him allows me to support his goals and why he started the business: to produce a highly technical USA-made parts at a fair price and provide local jobs- It is what I want to be a part of!”

~ Leslie

Bridgeway Capital provided LL Kurtz a \$375,000 loan to refinance all existing debt and improve cash flow. The additional working capital allowed Bill to hire several new employees.

INCLUSIVE ERIE

In FY 2018, in partnership with the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, Bridgeway launched the Urban Entrepreneurship Program and the Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator (EMOBA). These groundbreaking programs help minority entrepreneurs develop and launch businesses, facilitated with extensive mentoring, one-on-one tailored technical assistance, and streamlined lending with somewhat relaxed credit standards.

Financed by ECGRA and managed by Bridgeway Capital, the **Erie Inclusive Fund will invest at least \$5 million in new loans in Erie County by 2022**, with a commitment to **invest half, \$2.5 million, in minority-owned businesses.**

\$5
million

\$2.5
million invested
in minority-owned
businesses

Erie Urban Entrepreneurship Program

Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator

More than 86% of dollars lent have been directed towards low-income businesses and communities and African Americans including the Erie Urban Entrepreneurship Program and the Erie Minority-Owned Business Accelerator. Both programs have helped minority entrepreneurs to develop and launch their businesses – a boost to the local economy and Erie’s investment in Black- and minority-owned businesses.

Since 2018, \$1,565,00 has been deployed to 10 Erie County businesses, creating 11 new jobs.

\$416,000



**5 AFRICAN AMERICAN
OWNED BUSINESSES**

\$1,149,000



**4 NON-MINORITY
OWNED BUSINESS**

\$120,000



**1 SYRIAN
IMMIGRANT
OWNED BUSINESS**

7 of the 10 funded companies are located in The City of Erie and operate in low- to moderate income areas

- Tagteam Logistic located in McKean
- Perry’s Pet in Waterford
- Rushin Enterprises based in Corry

SHAM MIDDLE EASTERN MARKET

Sham Middle Eastern Market received a \$120,000 fixed rate loan to provide growth capital needed for the grocer to survive and help families thrive during the pandemic. The local grocer is now able to effectively and competitively deliver halal meats, fresh produce and baked goods to Erie's burgeoning Syrian and middle eastern population. Sham Middle Eastern Market brings fresh foods to a low-income area located in an Erie food desert.

JOHNSON REAL ESTATE

Johnson Real Estate business owners, Sean and Kenya Johnson, began purchasing and renovating investment real estate in the city of Erie in 2012. They own several affordable residential properties and the building where their Learning Ladder Early Childcare business operates. This minority-owned business is achieving great things. Not only is their business growing, they are adding properties to their portfolio, providing affordable housing and supporting businesses that provide essential services, like childcare.

TASTE & SEE: ALL THINGS FRUITS & VEGETABLES

Krystal Robinson entered EMOBA with an idea – she wanted to share her passion for healthy food and cooking with the Erie community. A participant in EMOBA's first cohort, she has been working intensively to build a business that increases access to healthy food in Erie.

Through the accelerator, she gained access to a network of business development professionals who guided her to develop a business plan and marketing strategy. Today her company is fully conceptualized, Taste and See: All Things Fruits & Vegetables, and she is busy working with the Erie Downtown Development Corporation as a vendor in Erie's Flagship City Food Hall. Krystal's passion for nutrition and her community are part of Erie's future.

"My goal is to help Erie to look good and feel good because it eats good."

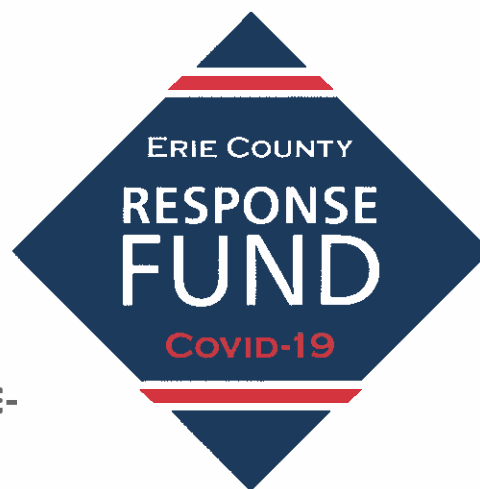
- Krystal Robinson, Owner
Taste and See: All Things Fruits and Vegetables

ERIE COUNTY EMERGENCY COVID-19 RELIEF FUND

In March 2020, ECGRA made an impact in our community by creating a COVID-19 Response fund in partnership with Bridgeway that focused on small business, nonprofits, and humanitarian aid efforts. The pandemic wreaked havoc on communities and small businesses across the county. This ECGRA investment allowed Bridgeway to make very low interest loans quickly to small businesses and nonprofit organizations in Erie County in desperate need of working capital as revenues plummeted.

Since March 2020, Bridgeway has deployed **\$633,200** to **25 small businesses** and **2 nonprofits** operating in Erie County saving 103 full-time positions and 58 part time jobs.

22
loans
TO BUSINESSES AND
NONPROFITS OPERATING
IN **LOW- TO MODERATE-**
INCOME (LMI) AREAS



16
loans
TOTALING **\$298,200**
HAVE BEEN CLOSED TO
WOMEN OR MINORITY-
OWNED BUSINESSES

CHIDO'S DRY CLEANING

A \$50,000 Bridgeway loan to Chido's Dry Cleaning helped preserve an iconic Erie business. Founded in 1946, Chido's is a State Street fixture. Chido's serves numerous local institutions, including hospitals, and remained open as an essential business when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. However, sales dropped and Chido's was initially unsuccessful accessing federal relief through the Payroll Protection Program.

Bridgeway's loan provided the working capital needed to make payroll, pay utility bills, and retain 8 full-time and 6 part-time employees.

KING PRECISION SOLUTIONS

King Precision Solutions, a manufacturing company that produces injection molding and tool builds, lost 75% of its orders since April 2020. To replace these orders, the company began producing tool and die polishing for a local Erie firm building COVID-19 test parts.

The \$50,000 Bridgeway loan will support the retention of 14 full-time and 2 part-time employees.

ERIE PHILHARMONIC

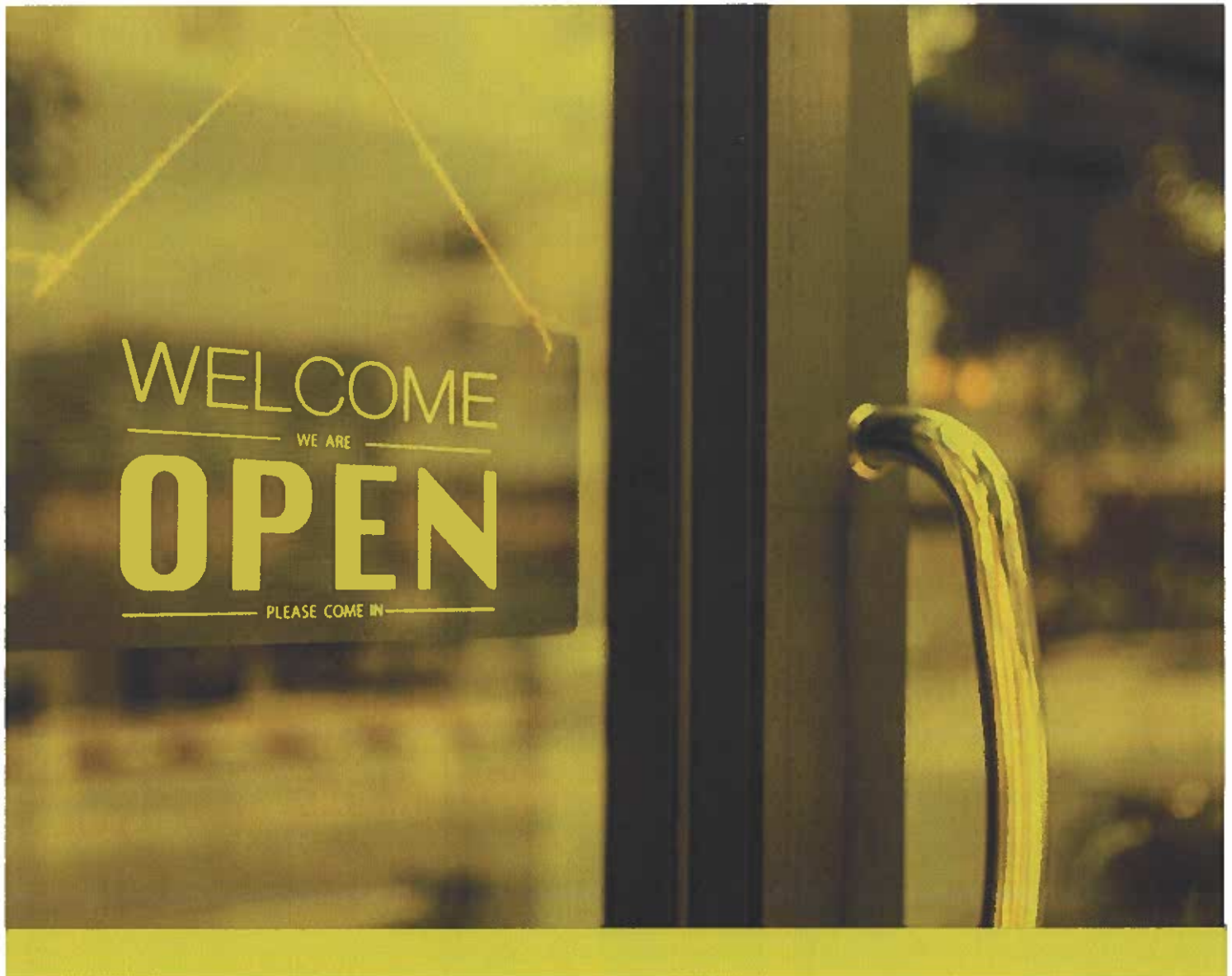
With performances canceled and revenue stalled, the **Philharmonic required working capital to meet costs and were provided a \$50,000 loan to meet their needs.**

ERIE REGIONAL CHAMBER AND GROWTH PARTNERSHIP

The \$50,000 loan to the Erie Regional Chamber will allow it to continue providing access, advocacy, and awareness to the businesses throughout the Erie region—a critical service during the COVID crisis.

CONCLUSION

This is a smart investment in Erie County. Prior to ECGRA's partnership with Bridgeway Capital, Erie County did not have access to a viable CDFI, which is a key element of the economic development ecosystem. The investment to Bridgeway capital has been a great return on investment and is a tremendous success for Erie County and small business owners. ECGRA continues to elevate Erie County and is empowering businesses to thrive by continuing to invest in its future.





Strategic Planning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, June 30, 2021
10:00am
Via ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81028847135>

Meeting ID: 810 2884 7135
Password: Not Required

AGENDA

1. Community Assets – Parks, Fields, & Trails
 - a. 10 applications

2. Good of the Order

2021 Community Assets Grant Program

PARKS, FIELDS, & TRAILS - Project Summaries

Total Requests: 10

Total Requested: \$182,910.12

Program Purpose: To 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.

Erie County health assessments continue to show a decline in physical activity and an increase in preventable illnesses such as heart disease and diabetes. Investment in parks, fields, and trails can encourage healthy lifestyles, move towards equitable distribution of park opportunities, and even attract athletic competitions which enhance local tourism. Additionally, an investment in parks can help rejuvenate neighborhoods and Main Streets throughout Erie County.



1. Project Name – Edinboro Parks Beautification

Project Sponsor - Borough of Edinboro

Amount of Request - \$ 11,250

Project Total - \$ 22,500

Match Status – Secured by the borough from its general fund

Project Summary – The project will enhance existing parks and amenities like Edinboro Lake by adding trash receptacles, a drinking fountain/water bottle filling station, playground equipment, create four stations for a bicycle rental program and repair a pavilion.

Plans/Public Participation – The borough is working in conjunction with the newly formed Edinboro Community and Economic Development, the Lakeside Association, Edinboro University, and Boy Scout Troop #176. The ECED hired a consultant to do a plan for the borough and had a number of public meetings.

Recommendation – Fund the project as it has community support, matching funds, a good track record of completing projects, and it advances the program goals.

2. Project Name – Wells Park – Phase 1 (Basketball Court)

Project Sponsor – Girard Borough

Amount of Request - \$ 25,000

Project Total - \$ 125,000

Match Status – Secured by the borough from its general fund

Project Summary – Wells Park is located in downtown Girard adjacent to the borough hall, a playground, and pool. The current popular basketball court has deteriorated and will be completely rebuilt.

Plans/Public Participation – The decision to rejuvenate the basketball courts came from a borough masterplan currently underway. The project has already been publicly bid and the approved low bid is in line with the proposed budget.

Recommendation – Fund the project as it has broad community support, matching funds, Girard has a good track record of completing projects, and it advances the program goals of encouraging outdoor recreation. The project can begin as soon as funding is awarded.

3. Project Name – Southwest Park Project

Project Sponsor – Union City Borough

Amount of Request - \$ 25,000

Project Total - \$ 90,477

Match Status – The borough has applied for funds through PA DCNR and the Union City Community Foundation. The decision is anticipated in September.

Project Summary – The project will include rehabilitation of an important, yet underutilized neighborhood park. It will include new sidewalks, ADA parking & access improvements, installation of a pavilion & a "half court" basketball court, new swing set, protective play surface, benches & safety fencing. The borough wants to invest in the park as the neighborhood around it is below the median income and has an underserved population.

Plans/Public Participation – The decision to address the park in this location came from a park masterplan developed two years ago with ECGRA and DCNR funding.

Recommendation – Fund the project as it has broad community support, Union City Borough has a good track record of completing projects, and it advances the program goals of encouraging outdoor recreation and an equitable distribution of park investment.

4. Project Name – North Hills Golf Course Building Improvements

Project Sponsor – City of Corry

Amount of Request - \$ 25,000

Project Total - \$ 50,000

Match Status – Corry will use funds from the golf course enterprise fund. The transfer was discussed with Corry city council.

Project Summary – Corry proposes to replace the roof at the city owned North Hills Municipal Golf Course cart barn. The city also plans to install all new roof support beams and to install vinyl siding on the ends of the building.

Plans/Public Participation – The project was discussed at council meetings.

Recommendation – The application indicates that the labor for the project will be from staff members which is an in-kind match. ECGRA does not allow in-kind donations of materials or labor. The maximum allowable grant would be \$12,500 which reflects 50% of the material costs. The project does not directly support or encourage outdoor exercise. ECGRA funded an irrigation system upgrade at the golf course in 2020 (funded in 2018 for \$21,404).

5. Project Name – Baldwin Park Pickleball Courts

Project Sponsor – City of Erie

Amount of Request - \$ 25,000

Project Total - \$ 182,591.20

Match Status – The city has applied for \$155,200 from PA DCNR to fund the project and there is a letter of commitment from the Erie Pickleball Association for \$25,000. The city has pledged no funds towards the project - only in-kind services which is in addition to the project total.

Project Summary – The city proposes to create six pickleball courts at the site of currently deteriorated tennis courts at the city’s Baldwin Park located at West 25th and Geist. (Two pickleball courts can fit within one tennis court.)

Plans/Public Participation – The city of Erie does not have a park masterplan and little public input was sought regarding the project and funding application. The vast majority of letters of support in the application are from suburban residents.

Recommendation – The city of Erie has not completed two ECGRA funded projects from 2018 despite time extensions. Additionally, without public participation or input, the uncertainty of matching funds, and the question of the need for ECGRA funding, the recommendation is to ask the city to re-apply the next program cycle.

6. Project Name – Disc Golf at Pleasant Ridge Park

Project Sponsor – Fairview Parks and Recreation Authority

Amount of Request - \$ 5,000

Project Total - \$ 10,000

Match Status – The cash match has been secured.

Project Summary – The authority proposes to create an 18-hole disc (frisbee) golf course at the 86 acre Pleasant Ridge Park in Fairview Township.

Plans/Public Participation – Planning for the park began in 2019 when the Lake Erie Disc Golf club approached Fairview about creating a course at Pleasant Ridge Park. The authority surveyed residents and others to gauge interest and support. The majority of respondents were in favor of the project. Nationwide the sport is growing, and Erie County has just three public disc courses. Two of which are on college campuses. There is support from the Township supervisors as well as pledges of in-kind labor and materials.

Recommendation – The small investment in the course will create another public disc golf course in Erie County, give residents a no-cost outdoor recreation opportunity furthering the program goals, and give Erie County a venue for disc golf tournaments which can enhance the local economy. Recommendation is to fully fund the modest request.

7. Project Name – Goodell Gardens Trail System, Phase 1

Project Sponsor – Goodell Gardens

Amount of Request - \$ 12,365.12

Project Total - \$ 24,730.26

Match Status – Goodell will use funds from its reserves if matching grants or donations are not secured.

Project Summary – Goodell Gardens proposes to create an additional 2.7 miles of walking trails within its 80-acre property. Project will also create benches, a Story Walk activity, a shelter, and signage.

Plans/Public Participation – Goodell Gardens completed a community survey in 2020 along with a three-year strategic plan for its property in Edinboro. In 2020, the Edinboro Community and Economic Development (ECED) group also formulated a plan which called for more walking trails in the borough.

Recommendation – Goodell continues to collaborate with the community and enhance its property. ECED's masterplan for the borough encourages four-season activities like walking trails. The project is also in-line with ECGRA program goals and Goodell is able to complete the project in a timely manner.

8. Project Name – Headwaters Park Trail Improvement

Project Sponsor – Headwaters NRC Trust (Erie County Conservation District)

Amount of Request - \$ 9,295.00

Project Total - \$ 18,590.00

Match Status – The matching funds are secured and will be provided by the Erie County Conservation District and Headwaters Natural Resource Center Trust. ECCD will provide \$7,300.00 and Headwaters NRC Trust will provide \$1,995.00

Project Summary – Headwaters Park has recently completed a significant expansion to its public space and trail system. There are several details that need to be completed including protective gates to its trailheads, finishing details to the rain garden, and drainage systems to protect the new trails. The park is open to the public and is located at Route 8 and I-90.

Plans/Public Participation – Public involvement began with the Master Site Plan (MSP), approved by the Erie County Conservation District Board of Directors in March of 2015. This collaboration was realized through participation by government agencies, municipalities, local educators, and public and Park neighbors. The creation of the MSP has guided the direction of the park and the current and future decisions regarding its maintenance, expansion, and preservation for the public. Staff stays in constant contact with its visitors in multiple ways, mainly through website updates, phone conversations and emails, conversations with visitors on the trail, and through social media. It has been found that through this spectrum of means to connect with the public that staff is efficiently able to gather feedback and ideas from a variety of demographics and visitors to the park. This wide range of ideas and feedback has been valuable when designing current and future plans for the park.

Recommendation – ECGRA has invested \$51,751 in the park through two grants since 2018. The relatively small request would complete and protect that investment. The trail system encourages active recreation and enhances one of the few parks in that area of Erie County (eastern Millcreek). The recommendation is to fully fund the project.

9. Project Name – Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Segment in Downtown Corry

Project Sponsor – Impact Corry

Amount of Request - \$ 25,000

Project Total - \$ 458,239 (\$48,000 in-kind property donations)

Match Status – To date \$25,500 is secured in cash. \$316,475 has been requested from PA DCNR

Project Summary – Impact Corry will build 4,700 linear feet of multi-use trail through the heart of Corry to link to rails to trails projects: one to the north of Corry (connecting Clymer, NY) and one to the south which will connect to Spartansburg in Crawford County. The segment is important to the completion of the Erie to Pittsburgh Trail which will link the two cities by stitching together trails along the former railroad lines in Western Pennsylvania. As part of the project, they will create 3.17 acre park, trailhead, a spur connecting to Corry’s Mead Park, and rehabilitate blighted property on end of trail as welcome center and trailhead.

Plans/Public Participation – Numerous plans and efforts include the development of the formerly used rail lines in and around Corry as multi-use trails and the development of Corry as a “Trail Town” which would welcome trail users and leverage their visits to help bolster small businesses. That adjacent property owners would be willing to donate property for the trail connection illustrates the significant support from Corry residents.

Recommendation – The Erie to Pittsburgh Trail has significant momentum right now and Impact Corry has a number of projects underway to compliment that effort. Impact Corry has five ECGRA funded projects open currently. Staff will discuss with Impact Corry their ability to take on an additional project, but otherwise recommends the project funding.

10. Project Name – Transforming Urban and Everyday Spaces into Early Learning Places

Project Sponsor – United Way of Erie

Amount of Request - \$ 20,000

Project Total - \$ 40,000

Match Status – \$13,500 in cash from the United Way and \$6,500 in in-kind.

Project Summary – The proposal is to place items (descriptions were not provided) in public spaces (with Erie’s Wayne Park to be the first) which will stimulate young minds and foster early learning.

Plans/Public Participation – All of the project planning was internal. There was no public involvement or input.

Recommendation – The project was not vetted publicly. The proposal is vague and the budget contains \$6,500 in in-kind donations which are not eligible under the ECGRA guidelines. The proposal to assist children with early learning has merit, but the Parks, Fields, & Trails program is very clearly designed to encourage physical activity to promote a healthier Erie County. The proposal is a youth and education project which may need more refinement. Recommendation would be to seek funding from the Erie Community Foundation.

Workforce training program pitched to City Council

BY CAROL FIELDING
carol@thecorryjournal.com

During a planning session Thursday evening, Corry City Council welcomed Kevin Arrington, president of A+ Strategies and Corporate Solutions, and Michael Chevalier, president of Preferred Systems, as they presented a Family Matters Economic Stimulus Package.

The program provides workforce training, focused on young adults from ages 18 to 30, to help get them plugged into job opportunities in Corry.

The total cost for the project is \$4.5 million.

"This won't come out of anyone's budget and will not be a burden to the taxpayer," Arrington said.

Funding for the program is being requested in the form of grants from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), Erie Community Foundation, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and through Impact Corry.

The approach of A+SCS comes in three stages totaling 13 weeks of study.

The first stage is four weeks of leadership development with remedial math and English skills.

"Leadership development teaches the student why you are in society, what is your place in society, and your responsibilities," Arrington said.

Five weeks of the second stage focuses on workforce development. Oral communication, financial literacy, why to have a relationship with a bank, career assessments, conflict resolution, and work etiquette are some of the major topics.

The third stage and final four weeks is specialized occupational training at the employer location.

"At the end of those 13 weeks students will have built personal skills and relationships with the employers so they can get those open jobs," Arrington said.

"The biggest thing we want people to know is that there are stipends to the participants," Arrington added. "We pay them to participate in the program. It has to be worth their time to stay engaged and make a commitment."

For the first nine weeks participants will receive \$10 an hour. For the last four weeks, participants will work a minimum of 20 hours a week at \$12 an hour. Then A+SCS will try to line them up with jobs that will start at \$14 an hour, currently almost twice minimum wage.

◀ See Council, P.2

cil

(Continued from front page)

Mitchell expects there to be 300 jobs open in Corry in the next three to five years.

"It sounds like the applicant for all of these funds will be the City of Corry," said City Manager Jason Biondi. "This means the City Council will have to approve the project and approve for your entity to apply for those funds in the city's name."

Arrington confirmed that would be the case.

"Yes, the city of Corry would be the recipient of the funds and we would

contract with the city for the program," Arrington said.

He went on to note the many improvements being worked on in Corry.

"A big thing I'm hearing about in Corry is that you're moving at lightning speed, so what we really want to do is align some resources that make sense for all of us to push and grow in the same direction," Arrington said. "We bring resource alignment into different entities, in this case, the city of Corry.

My organization will focus on workforce development and entrepreneurial education."

Chevalier noted his experience in continuing education and helping people find jobs.

"I work with the community, the unions, trying to match people with jobs and identifying the right people to work," Chevalier said. "I also work in drug and alcohol employee assistance and treatment, and mental health. We deal with continuing education and certifi-

cation boards to get people certified."

"We're prepared to train 100 people over the next four years. If we can get these people starting out making \$30,000 a year at places like Erie Insurance, AHN St. Vincent, UPMC Hamot, and all of the skilled trades and unions, this will also create a pipeline for students at our local colleges who are more focused and better prepared for their educational and occupational college experience."

Renaissance Block Grants make impact in Corry

BY CAROL FIELDING
carol@thecorryjournal.com

In 1971, Glenn and Lois Henderson bought their home in Corry. Built in the 1920s, their house had undergone some updates, but the roof was showing signs of wear and needed to be replaced.

In 2019, right about the time the family was contemplating the cost of a new roof, Lois Henderson heard about the Renaissance Block Grant program from Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority

(ECGRA). As a senior citizen on a fixed income, Henderson would not have been able to afford a new roof without the help of a grant.

But thanks to the grant, the Hendersons' home is now sporting a new roof. And that home is only one of 22 homes that received renovations thanks to the grant.

"ECGRA has been transformational throughout the county by offering all of its programs, but for residents and residential homeowners and landlords, the Renaissance Block Grant is

making a huge difference," said Charles Gray, executive director of Impact Corry. "We wouldn't be getting this done without them."

Since 2019, Corry is in its second round of ECGRA Renaissance Block funding.

"Our first round in the grant had 22 participants and leveraged \$190,924.30 in matching local investment," Gray said. "This round will fund another 20 projects projected to have a \$203,500 local matching investment."

The block grants began with the area called

Schoolhouse Block, which comprised properties between Wayne Street and North Center Street, and East Bond and East Irving Street to East Frederick Street.

The next section, referred to as Park View, is currently in progress. Park View is comprised of Wayne Street to North Center Street, and East Smith Street to East Main Street.

"We started in the fall of 2019 with those community meetings and the four neighborhoods were chosen," Gray said. "Now everybody from

Schoolhouse Block has had their opportunity to use the funds and we're more than halfway done with Park View."

The next portion of the city to be transformed will be Hiram's Haunt, so named because the house of Hiram Cory, founder of Corry, was in that neighborhood. Hiram's Haunt runs from North Center Street to Mead Avenue, and West Washington Street to West Smith Street. More neighborhoods will follow.

◀ See Grants, P.3

Grants

(Continued from front page)

"These neighborhoods were based on formulas of how many people wanted to participate, did the work, how many properties, and how much money was going to be invested, so it was all a very fair process," Gray explained.

The current list of properties in Park View will have to be finished prior to the next round of any new funding being opened for Hiram's Haunt.

"Essentially, the program is that we match up to \$5,000 of homeowner or landlord investment," Gray explained. "When the next grant opens up, people may apply, the application goes through the process, and when it comes their turn, if it's a do-it-yourself project we pay for materials, not labor."

"If it's a contractor then we match it. They give us their bids, we create a contract saying we promise to reimburse a certain amount for the job, they do the job, they bring us their paid invoices, and then we reimburse. We typically reimburse in under two weeks."

Because people have been curious to know which houses in Corry have undergone improvements, as part of the First Fridays in October, Impact Corry will have literature and maps where people can take self-guided tours.

"This will be where people can see not only the Renaissance Block homes but also the Mission Main Street properties," Gray said. "Hopefully when we get Paint the Town off the launch pad this summer, people can walk through

the city and see every house and business that's been improved.

"The main thing is we want to thank ECGRA because this is huge," Gray added. "Because of the homeowners matches, some of them spend more than the \$5,000. So it actually leverages a specific match. Local dollars going into the houses. I think that's very impressive."

"This is all part of our Community Strategic Plan to help homeowners. Until we really fix things up in Corry there is an equity gap. Before, if you invested in your house you weren't going to get all that money back. This is going to help people invest in their homes and jump that equity gap. I think that it is bringing a sense of pride and loving your house a little more."

Thanks to Renaissance Block, the Hendersons' family home remains safe and dry.

Enthused by the roof investment, Lois has plans for new windows, a new storm door, and maybe new siding to keep her home beautiful and useful for generations to come.

"This is a home where many generations gather together for holidays and special occasions," Henderson said. "I love Corry, I raised my sons here. Today, I am enjoying being a grandma to seven grandchildren and a nana to 15 great-grandchildren."

All of whom consider grandma's house their second home, and will for many years to come, thanks to the Renaissance Block Grant.

A look at what's behind Union City's mural

BY MARYANN MOOK
Staff writer

entertained the Union City region for more than 80 years.

George Warden is depicted there.

Warden was a sousaphone player for the Coleman Band, a musical group that

him without both arms.

Union City's industrial heritage, firefighting history, wooden furniture manufacturing, historic buildings, rail industry, French Creek and strong sports programs are all represented there, as

well.

Anyone — pedestrians or motorists — entering Union City from the south will be greeted by all of these figures and more on a mural that spans the south wall of a building at 28 S. Main St.

The mural was designed and made by artists Tom Ferraro and Steve Mik of the Looking Glass Project in Erie. Ferraro and Ed Grout started the business in 2012 with a mission to encourage people to tell their stories, and then transform those stories into public art.

When Grout left a couple of years ago, Mik joined Ferraro in the collaboration.

"There was a call for artists for the mural, so we submitted a proposal for it," Ferraro said.

Union City Borough and Union City Pride Inc. had advertised for artists to do the mural project.

Ferraro said, with any job, their process is to always engage the community and go in with no preconceived notion. They did that during

COVID-19.

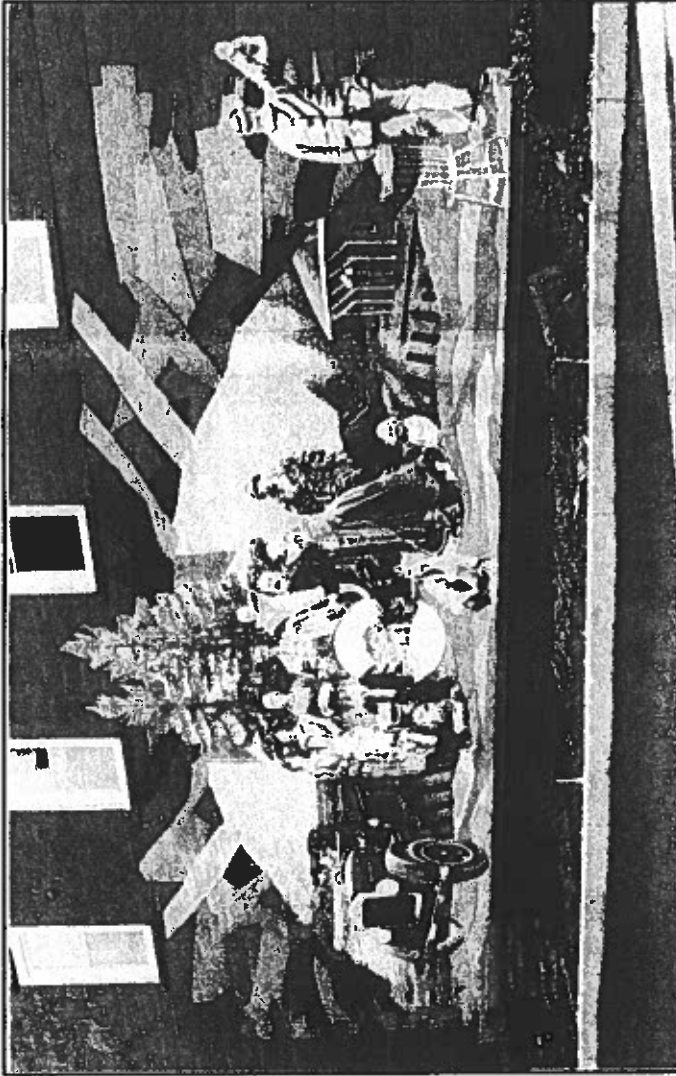
Ferraro and Mik engaged the community early in the design process to help identify key themes and colors. They gathered input through surveys, stories and interviews, all of which supported the understanding that Union City played a main role in the development of Erie County.

Additional information was gathered from resources found in the Union City Historical Museum and Erie County Public Library, from the Union City Historical Society, online and during visits to the community.

"We actually went two times to the museum because there were so many things in there," Ferraro said. "We toured the museum one time and the other time we went through it ourselves."

They also researched Union City history in the reference books at Erie County's Blasco Memorial Library.

◀ See Mural, P.2



Manyann Mook/The Corry Journal
A mural designed and made by artists Tom Ferraro and Steve Mik of the Looking Glass Project greets visitors heading north on Main Street in Union City.

Covering Corry, Columbus, Concord, Clymer, Elgin, Findley Lake, Spartansburg, Spring Creek, Union City & Wayne Township

Mural

(Continued from front page)

They also walked around town.

"We wanted to get a sense of the landscape," Ferraro said. "We went to the trestle and the (American Legion) ball park."

Mik said, to him, Union City is a place trying to revitalize itself.

"It has a long history of furniture dedication people carry with them," Mik said. "They are trying to revitalize the town with new ideas. People have a strong sense of pride for the community."

The two artists presented the mural May 26th during the borough's 150th celebration of the naming of Union City.

Here is the artists' description of the mural:

The composition is framed with an archway, which reinforces the location as a gateway and welcomes visitors into the downtown district. The archway is made up of abstract shapes that symbolize some of the natural elements surrounding the community.

The darker green and orange shapes represent the forests and agricultural community that surround the borough. In the lower section of the mural, the composition rides on blue and light green shapes that flow across the bottom, representing the impact of the fortunes and perils of French Creek on the town.

Images of Union City citizens through the ages are at the center. They represent the community's story through its people and provide a visual timeline that stretches from the late 19th century to the present. These individuals are not dignitaries or celebrities, but rather, they represent ordinary people — the true treasure of the community.

The images are all sepia toned and were found in the photographic collections of the Union City Museum and Historical Society and in print and digital publications.

Starting from the bottom left, two unidentified boys surround a heating stove representing Union City's heritage of manufacturing and commerce.

Above the boys stand two women and a football player taken from a 1924 Union City High School yearbook. The women and athlete symbolize Union City's commitment to and value of education and nurturing a competitive spirit. To the right of the football player stands Postmaster Wright (c.1910) and Warden with his granddaughter, Margret Gardner.

Next are Sarah Kendall and Sylvester Butler (in a bearskin coat c.1912). In the lower right is a photograph

of Showers and his daughter, Marie, who symbolize the resiliency of the individual people and community of Union City. After his industrial accident, Showers went on to lead a life that inspired the entire community.

His story mirrors the determination of a community that has overcome fires, floods and severe economic challenges. Sliding into the Union City logo is a color image of a young softball player — a shoutout to the community's present and future and commitment to revitalization.

These images are anchored by a circular logo that is currently being used to represent Union City, and it acknowledges the organization behind the mural project — Union City Pride Inc., a community organization dedicated to restoring pride in and celebrating the heritage of Union City.

Images with historical significance flank the central figures. The old firetruck on the left is completely restored and at the museum. The Union City train station depicted on the right is an example of preserving history through the reuse of historic buildings. Images of French Creek, the iron rail bridge, fall foliage, blue skies and the rail line fill the background.

On the far right, the mural is completed by a standing figure of a railroad signalman, circa 1910. His green light welcomes visitors to Union City's downtown. The signalman is leaning on a wooden chair, which acknowledges Union City's chair-making industry and informal title, "The Chair Center of the World."

The mural is painted on a fabric called Polytab, or Parachute Cloth. The mural is all hand painted using acrylic paint.

Both artists like the finished product.

"It is what we envisioned," Ferraro said. "We felt, because of the location, it welcomes people into the community. We wanted a gateway feel to it, and we think we captured that."

Mik agrees.

"It turned out really good. We were both happy," Mik said. "The design we centered on is carried all the way through."

Funding for the project was provided in part by the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority, Erie Community Foundation and in part from an Erie Arts & Culture Project Grant made possible by community contributions to the United Arts Fund and the Erie Arts Endowment.

RESOLUTION NUMBER 9, 2021

**Resolution to enter into agreements with eight (8)
Erie County community organizations and municipalities engaged
in Parks, Fields, & Trails as part of the Community Assets**

Whereas, the Strategic Planning Committee reviewed funding proposals and made funding recommendations to support community assets as they relate to ECGRA’s Strategic Plan and community goals;

Whereas, there were ten (10) applicants for Community Assets funding and the Board of Directors affirms that eight (8) applicants have met the threshold for funding including being in good standing with taxing bodies and other reporting requirements;

Whereas, the eligible applicants are awarded grants totaling \$125,410.12 to the extent outlined in the attached Exhibit “A”;

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 enter into agreements with ten (10) Erie County Community Assets so they may flourish, create an economic impact on the region through tourism and continue to enrich the quality of life for Erie County residents.

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____.

This resolution was passed on 15th day of July 2021 by a vote of ___ - ____.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Chairman, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
July 15, 2021

ATTEST:

Secretary, ECGRA



2021 Community Assets Grants Recipients

PARKS, FIELDS, & TRAILS

Organization	Project	Amount Requested	Amount Awarded
Borough of Edinboro	Edinboro Parks Beautification	\$11,250.00	\$11,250.00
Borough of Girard	Wells Park - Phase 1	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
Borough of Union City	Southwest Park Project	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
City of Corry	North Hills Municipal Golf Course Building Improvements	\$25,000.00	\$12,500.00
City of Erie	Baldwin Park Pickleball Courts	\$25,000.00	\$0.00
Fairview Parks & Recreation Authority	Disc Golf Course at Pleasant Ridge	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	Goodell Gardens' Trail system, Phase 1	\$12,365.12	\$12,365.12
Headwaters NRC Trust	Headwaters Park Trail Improvement	\$9,295.00	\$9,295.00
Impact Corry	Filling an Erie to Pittsburgh Trail Gap in Corry	\$25,000.00	\$25,000.00
United Way of Erie County	Transforming Urban and Everyday Spaces into Early Learning Places	\$20,000.00	\$0.00
TOTAL Requested		\$182,910.12	\$125,410.12

RESOLUTION NUMBER 10, 2021

Resolution to accept the 2020-21 audited financial statements

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 accept the 2020-21 audited financial statements into record as outlined in the attached Exhibit "A".

On the motion of _____, seconded by _____.

This resolution was passed on the 15th day of July 2021 by a vote of _____ - _____.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

Chairman, Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority
July 15, 2021

ATTEST:

Secretary, ECGRA

**Erie County Gaming
Revenue Authority**

Financial Statements

Year Ended March 31, 2021
with Independent Auditor's Report

MaherDuessel

Pursuing the profession while promoting the public good©
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ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

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Independent Auditor's Report

**Board of Directors
Erie County Gaming
Revenue Authority
Erie, Pennsylvania**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (Authority), a component unit of the County of Erie, Pennsylvania as of and for the year ended March 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as of March 31, 2021, and the changes in its financial position and cash flows thereof, for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Maker Duessel

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania
June 28, 2021

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

MARCH 31, 2021

Assets	
<hr/>	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,089,578
Prepaid expenses	<u>6,899</u>
Total current assets	10,096,477
Noncurrent assets:	
Notes receivable, net	<u>6,148,846</u>
Total Assets	<u><u>\$ 16,245,323</u></u>
<hr/>	
Liabilities and Net Position	
<hr/>	
Liabilities	<u>\$ -</u>
Net Position:	
Restricted - economic development	<u>16,245,323</u>
Total Net Position	<u><u>\$ 16,245,323</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

Operating Revenues:

Gaming revenue	\$ 4,432,299
COVID-19 revenue	250,000
Contributions	25,000
Interest income - note receivable	98,494
	<hr/>
Total operating revenues	4,805,793

Operating Expenses:

Economic Development:	
Grants awarded	3,858,915
Provision for uncollectible notes	230,000
Employee costs	256,727
Professional fees	71,486
Office space	17,471
Marketing and communications	3,400
Office expenses	13,476
Data processing	17,502
Insurance	3,474
General and meeting	3,482
	<hr/>
Total operating expenses	4,475,933
	<hr/>
Operating Income (Loss)	329,860

Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses):

Interest income	35,614
	<hr/>
Change in Net Position	365,474

Net Position:

Beginning of year	15,879,849
	<hr/>
End of year	\$ 16,245,323
	<hr/> <hr/>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

Cash Flows From Operating Activities:	
Cash received from gaming revenue	\$ 4,432,299
Cash received from COVID-19 revenues	250,000
Cash received from donors	25,000
Cash received from borrowers	98,494
Cash paid to borrowers as loan disbursements	(1,120,000)
Cash paid to employees and for employee benefits	(256,727)
Cash paid as grant awards	(3,858,915)
Cash paid for operating expenses	(136,831)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(566,680)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities:	
Interest income	35,614
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	(531,066)
Cash and Cash Equivalents:	
Beginning of year	10,620,644
End of year	\$ 10,089,578
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Flows Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities:	
Operating income (loss)	\$ 329,860
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:	
Provision for uncollectible notes	230,000
Change in operating assets and liabilities:	
Prepaid expenses	(6,540)
Notes receivable	(1,120,000)
Total adjustments	(896,540)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$ (566,680)

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

1. General Information

The Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (Authority) was established February 2008. The Authority was formed pursuant to the provisions of the Economic Development Financing Law, the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act, and the Home Rule Charter of the County of Erie (County). The purpose of the Authority is to administer municipal grants and otherwise perform the functions of the County's Economic Development Authority.

The Authority's Board consists of nine Board members. Two of the members are ex-officio, non-voting members, namely, the Chairman of County Council or designee, and the County Executive or designee. The remaining members consist of one resident from each of the seven districts within the County who shall be appointed by the County Executive with the consent of County Council.

The Authority is dependent on gaming revenues generated from the Presque Isle Downs and Casino. These revenues are passed on to the Authority as restricted funds.

On October 26, 2017, the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act was amended, changing, among other things, how gaming revenues were distributed to counties and entities like the Authority. One clause specifically effecting the Authority diverted \$1,000,000 of restricted gaming revenue each year for use by the Erie County Land Bank.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Authority have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to government units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the Authority's accounting policies are described below.

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

The Authority is considered a special purpose government entity operating a single government program. Non-operating revenue and expenses consist of those revenues and expenses that are related to the financing and investing type of activities.

Net Position

The Authority only reports restricted net position which represents constraints placed on net position used through external restrictions, reduced by liabilities related to those assets. The Authority's net position is restricted for economic development grants and loans. Of the total restricted net position, \$6.1 million represents notes receivable (net) from various borrowers as described in Note 6, and \$3.1 million represents grant funding committed via award agreements but not yet spent.

The Authority's policy is to use funds in the order of the most restricted to the least restrictive.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are cash on hand, as well as demand deposits in checking and savings accounts at a local financial institution.

Notes Receivable

As described in Note 6, the Authority has issued various economic development related notes. Notes receivable are written off when they are determined to be uncollectible. It is the Authority's policy to provide for future losses on notes based on an evaluation of the current portfolio, current economic conditions, and such other factors which, in the Authority's judgement, may impact collectability for specific notes. The allowance for uncollectable notes totaled \$1,540,000 as of March 31, 2021. As of March 31, 2021, none of the notes receivable are in default.

From time to time, the Authority awards convertible loans to organizations ("Awardee") which are required to loan those funds to third parties ("Recipient"). If the Recipient defaults on the loans to the Awardee, the Authority's loan to the Awardee converts to a grant. If the Recipient pays the loan back to the Awardee, the Authority will continue to receive its payments from the Awardee. Based on the convertible nature of these provisions, the Authority recognizes these awards as grants, since the likelihood of receiving funds cannot be determined, nor can they be quantified, at the time the grants are awarded.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

Risk Management

The Authority is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts (mitigated through the Pennsylvania Political Subdivision Tort Claims Act), theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; error and omission, and natural disasters for which the Authority carries commercial insurance. There have been no significant changes in insurance coverage since the prior year.

Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

Pending Pronouncements

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued statements that will become effective in future years, including Statement Nos. 87 (Leases), 89 (Accounting for Interest Costs), 91 (Conduit Debt Obligations), 92 (Omnibus 2020), 93 (Interbank Offered Rates), 94 (Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships), 96 (Information Technology Arrangements), and 97 (Deferred Compensation Plans). Management has not yet determined the impact of these statements on the financial statements.

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it. The Authority does not have a policy for custodial credit risk. As of March 31, 2021, \$9,848,605 of the Authority's bank balance of \$10,098,605 was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution and \$250,000 was covered by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). These deposits include amounts with a book balance as of March 31, 2021 of \$10,089,578, which are reported as cash and cash equivalents in the statement of net position.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

4. Operating Leases

The Authority entered into an agreement with an Organization for rental of office space, which commenced in April 2015.

The Authority's base rent will be payable in equal monthly installments of \$1,457. This will be charged monthly. The total expenditures for the year ended March 31, 2021 were \$17,471.

Minimum future rentals to be paid as of March 31, 2021 are as follows:

2022	\$	<u>2,913</u>
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5. Irrevocable Gifts to Erie Community Foundation

The Authority has entered into an irrevocable gift agreement with the Erie Community Foundation (ECF). This fund is under the control of the ECF and subject to their policies and, as such, is not recorded on the books of the Authority. The market value of this fund as reported by the ECF as of March 31, 2021 was \$15.2 million. A donor-designated fund, called the Lead Asset Endowment Fund, was established to perpetually provide financial assistance to organizations designated by the settlement dated December 13, 2010 (Erie County Lead Regional Assets). During the fiscal year, \$505,216 in distributions from this fund were awarded directly to Erie County Lead Assets.

6. Notes Receivable

On September 13, 2012 and August 13, 2013, the Authority entered into loan agreements with the Enterprise Development Fund of Erie County, Inc. (Fund) for \$500,000 and \$800,000, respectively. The purpose of the loan was to provide loans to various entities in the County area to create and retain jobs. In March 2018, the loans were restructured and combined into one loan agreement. The loan agreement requires quarterly interest-only payments at a rate of 1% per annum, until March 31, 2028. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$1,300,000 as of March 31, 2021. The Authority was notified in 2016 that an entity related to the Fund, The Greater Erie Industrial Development Corporation (GEIDC), filed for Chapter 7 bankruptcy. The Authority has considered the uncertainty surrounding the ultimate collectability of the loan in its determination of the overall

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

allowance for uncollectible notes. The Authority staff and Board will continue to monitor this dynamic situation to confirm ongoing viability of the Fund.

In September 2014, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with the Corry Industrial Benefit Association (CIBA) for \$50,000. The purpose of the loan was to provide loans to low-income individuals for energy efficient improvements for their homes. Payments are due to the Authority when CIBA has issued a loan to an individual and CIBA receives principal payments. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$18,846 as of March 31, 2021.

In January 2016, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with Bridgeway Capital for \$1,000,000. The purpose of the loan was to create the Erie Growth Fund. The loan requires interest-only quarterly payments at a rate of 3% per annum. The entire principal is due January 2026. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$1,000,000 as of March 31, 2021.

In April 2017, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with The Progress Fund for \$1,000,000. The purpose of the loan was to provide capital to rural businesses that create jobs and invest in Erie County. The loan requires interest-only quarterly payments at a rate of 2% per annum. The entire principal is due January 2026. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$1,000,000 as of March 31, 2021.

In December 2017, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with 1855 Capital Fund for \$500,000. The purpose of the loan was to provide capital to technology-based businesses that create jobs and invest in Erie County. Minimum Interest, as that term is defined in the loan agreement, is due to ECGRA semiannually. Outstanding Minimum Interest, Fixed Interest, Participating Interest, and Principal are due on the Maturity Date, as that term is defined in the loan agreement. The entire principal is due December 2027. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$500,000 as of March 31, 2021.

In September 2018, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with Bridgeway Capital for \$2,500,000. The purpose of the loan was to create the Erie Inclusive Fund. The loan requires interest-only quarterly payments at a rate of 1% per annum. The entire principal is due December 2028. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$2,500,000 as of March 31, 2021.

In January 2019, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with Blue Highway Capital for \$250,000. The purpose of the loan was to provide capital to rural businesses throughout Erie County. Minimum Interest, as that term is defined in the loan agreement, is due to

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

ECGRA semiannually. Outstanding Minimum Interest, Fixed Interest, Participating Interest, and Principal are due on the Maturity Date, as that term is defined in the loan agreement. The entire principal is due in January of 2029, unless extensions are exercised. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$250,000 as of March 31, 2021.

In March 2020, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with Bridgeway Capital to develop two separate coronavirus COVID-19 emergency loan funds, one to provide loans to small businesses within Erie County that have demonstrated actual negative economic impact due to effects of coronavirus COVID-19 in the amount of \$520,000, and one to provide loans to small Erie County nonprofit organizations for the purpose of providing the nonprofit organization with resources to aid in their mission based on local response to the pandemic in the amount of \$100,000. The loan bears zero interest. The entire outstanding balance is due in October of 2026, unless the forgiveness clause is exercised. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$620,000 as of March 31, 2021.

In August 2020, the Authority entered into a loan agreement with Erie Center for Arts & Technology for \$500,000. The purpose of the loan was to rehabilitate Wayne School building in support of workforce development, educational, and healthcare programming anchoring a distressed neighborhood. Minimum Interest, as that term is defined in the loan agreement, is due to the Authority quarterly. Outstanding Minimum Interest, Fixed Interest, Participating Interest, and Principal are due on the Maturity Date, as that term is defined in the loan agreement. The entire principal is due in August of 2027, unless extensions are exercised. The loan has an outstanding principal balance of \$500,000 as of March 31, 2021.

7. Simple IRA

In September 2014, the Authority's SIMPLE IRA Plan (Plan) was established with Fidelity Advisors to provide retirement benefits to their employees. The provisions of the Plan were established by the Board of Directors, who can also amend the Plan. Employees can contribute up to the IRS limits and the Authority will match up to 3% of the employee's wages. All contributions and earnings are vested immediately. Contributions made from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 by employees and the Authority were \$6,650 and \$4,726, respectively. Effective January 2021, the Authority entered into a Pension Plan for the Authority's match with the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS), as documented in Note 8.

ERIE COUNTY GAMING REVENUE AUTHORITY

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

8. Cash Benefit Plan

The Authority established a defined contribution Pension Plan (Plan), which is administered by PMRS, on January 1, 2021. All employees of the Authority are required to participate in the Plan. Members are eligible for retirement at 65 years of age or early retirement at 60 years of age with the benefit being actuarially reduced for each year or partial year prior to the attainment of age 65. The Authority contributes 8% of each member's compensation. Contributions made from January 1, 2021 through March 31, 2021 by employees and the Authority were \$1,750 and \$4,734, respectively

9. COVID-19

In early 2020, an outbreak of a novel strain of COVID-19 was identified, and infections have been found in a number of countries around the world, including the United States. COVID-19 and its associated impacts on supply chains, travel, employee productivity, and other economic activities has had, and may continue to have, a material effect on financial markets and economic activity. The extent of the impact of COVID-19 on the Authority's operational and financial performance is currently uncertain and cannot be predicted. There has been no immediate impact to the Authority's operations. A future potential impact may include disruptions or restrictions on the Authority's employees' ability to work. Operating revenues are not expected to change, as the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act dictates that the Authority receive one percent of slot machine gross revenues or \$10 million a year. The future effects of these issues are unknown.