



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
VIA ZOOM/In Person  
Knowledge Park; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510  
September 15, 2022

ZOOM Meeting Information:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86131464433>

Meeting ID: 861 3146 4433

Password: not required

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 2022
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

14. ADJOURNMENT

Next Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of ECGRA

Date: Thursday, October 20, 2022  
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**

**August 18, 2022**

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 August 18, 2022 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 and Mr. Cleaver are present in person, Mr. DiPaolo, Ms. Hess, Ms. Loll, and Mr. Winschel are present via Zoom. Chairman Brian Shank, Mr. Douglas Smith, and County Executive Brenton Davis (his connection is sporadic) are present via zoom. Mr. Wachter and Dr. Wood are present in person.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 2022**

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

#### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

There are no comments by any Board member at this time.

### COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Barney: I would just like to take the opportunity and thank all the Board members for their due diligence in attending the grant meeting last week. It is much appreciated.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

There is no public present for comments.

### PRESENTATIONS

There are no presentations at this time.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Treasurer's Report: Mr. Cleaver: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I reviewed the Treasurer's Report, and all seems well with me. Are there any questions? I will certainly answer them, but all is in order to me; there were payments, and Visa payments, and everything else looks fine to me.

Mr. DiPaolo makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented. Ms. Loll seconds the motion. There are no questions or discussion of the Treasurer's Report. Motion carries 6-0.

- b. Strategic Planning Committee:

Dr. Wood: The committee met on August 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am here at Knowledge Park. We started off with a presentation from two entities that are collaborating to create the Diverse Erie Loan Fund; it was Gary Lee of Diverse Erie, also known as the DEI Commission, and Tina Mengine, the Executive Director of the Erie County Redevelopment Authority.

They presented on the concept of a new loan fund – the Diverse Erie Loan Fund. Information was distributed to the Board in the form of a one-page summary of the goals of the revolving loan fund as well as the agreement between the Erie County Redevelopment Authority and Diverse Erie. The Board took the majority of the time in the meeting to ask questions of the fund, many of which were answered. We asked about the Investment Playbook, we asked about the focus of the fund, we asked about minimums and maximums and terms, Ms. Loll had some great questions there about the terms of the loans; we got all those questions answered.

We also asked about other contributing partners and we did find out that there are commitments from GEDIC, Erie Community Foundation, the RDA itself is putting money in, and there is an ask for the City of Erie to put in some funds. We did have a conversation that pursued, and I think the majority of the Strategic Planning Committee responded favorably to the idea of making a \$250,000 grant to the Diverse Erie Loan Fund with stipulations, which will be part of the negotiation process.

You will see in your packet today Resolution Number 12, which authorizes the executive director to enter into those negotiations and effectively represent the terms that were discussed by the Strategic Planning Committee.

The second agenda item was Multi-Municipal Collaboration. There were several grant requests that came in, the staff brought three of them to the Strategic Planning meeting for review, all three were acted upon favorably by the Committee as well after consensus was reached, and you will see that as Resolution Number 10 on your agenda.

Resolution Number 11 was the result of the review of the Mission Main Street grants; there were six of those that the staff brought and discussed with the Board and those are in the form of Resolution Number 11. You can see those in the attachment with the amounts.

Grand total – this is well over \$1 million in grants that we will be doing today. It's a big deal. It's a combination of ones that work. I just want to say that I appreciate the diligence and attendance of the Board members at the Strategic Planning meeting. Are there any questions for me about the grants awarded? I do want to recognize Chairman Shank, who also attended as well. I appreciated your attendance at that committee meeting.

There are no questions or discussion of the events of the Strategic Planning Committee meeting.

c. Update from County Council

Chairman Shank: Thank you for the opportunity and thank you for the wonderful emails and reminders about dates and times – I really appreciate that. We had a County Council meeting yesterday and we approved a new member of your Board, Robert S. Oberlander. It was a 7-0 vote, sponsored by Councilman Bayle out of Edinboro. I do have his resume here if any of you have any questions. He comes to us very highly recommended; he is currently on the school board of Fort LeBoeuf School District, Waterford Food Pantry, he's a member of the Kiwanis Club and Manufacturer's and Business Association. We take these appointments very seriously; we look over them very closely. Of course, the County Executive had signed off on Mr. Oberlander and hopefully he will be a great asset to help with what you men and women have done to help. Thank you.

Mr. Barney: Thank you, Councilman Shank. Are there any questions for the Chairman?

Dr. Wood: Thank you, Chairman Shank. Traditionally, we have received a letter in the past from the County Council office of the appointment to enter it into record. I have already met with Bob, and I can't wait to welcome him on board and go through the orientation.

Chairman Shank: Yes, the paperwork will catch up, but I wanted to be the bearer of good news, not always bad news.

d. Update from County Executive's Office

Mr. Smith: Good morning to everybody. I appreciate all of you and the time you spend doing the work of the Authority. From the Administration, I say thanks to Dr. Wood for including our Economic Development person, Jeffrey Cooper, in the rural listening tour going around different parts of the County and talking to the municipalities. That has been a very valuable

tool as we are trying to ascertain what projects are out there that we can partner with the Authority on in some cases. Also, Dr. Wood and I and your attorney have been working on amending our agreements for last year's funding to allow for municipalities to receive direct grants and that should be completed shortly. That too will help us partner with you to help municipalities with projects of note in their area.

Overall, we're just grateful to work with you and partner with you. That's all I have today. Thank you.

Mr. Barney: Thank you, Mr. Smith. Are there any questions of Mr. Smith at this time?

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dr. Wood: Thank you, Mr. Barney. You'll see in the Executive Director's Report that the majority of the staff time this month was spent on preparations for the Strategic Planning Committee meeting in which we reviewed nine grants and the revolving loan fund concept that I mentioned. You'll also see the Listening Sessions that Chairman Shank referred to. We held several of these sessions. We did a joint one with Edinboro and McKean Boroughs and McKean Township and we actually did that one outdoors at McKean Community Park and we got a lot of good input and feedback there. We also did one in Millcreek with the Supervisors and some community leaders there, and then we wrapped up our listening sessions in Fairview yesterday.

I can tell you that these listening sessions have been fantastic. We haven't done these since pre-pandemic. As Mr. Shank had mentioned, we do include a member of the Administration and we invite the County Council person for each district to attend those meetings as well, which several of them have, including Mr. Shank who came to the North East listening session. The information that we are getting from these organizations is fantastic – all the key projects that they are working on and the direction that they are headed as a municipality. We also reviewed past investments with them and one of the things I always ask is, "Who is not on this list, who are the nonprofits and what are the projects that are missing?" so this gives us good feedback.

As we move along, you can see our communications report there from Parker Philips and then the next document I want to touch on briefly. We were asked some questions about the Summer Jobs Program from this past year, and these are the answers to those questions. I'll just briefly go through it. There were 136 participants this summer, a split of 40% for the City and 60% for the County, and they kind of identified their explanation there. They had some problems with the city kids having problems filling out the applications. So, we will be asking them what they are going to be doing to rectify that. They also provided a list of employers that participated in the program. We were asked these questions at the last Board meeting, so I just wanted to make sure that everyone was aware of the answers.

As we scroll down the report, you will see the news clippings – this one is from the Corry Journal talking about Renaissance Block, next up the Erie Reader did a piece on the Investment Playbook, and then some recognition of ECGRA in the House of Mercy newsletter. I'll pause there and see if you have any questions.

Mr. Barney: Dr. Wood, what is the projected number of kids for the Summer Jobs Program? You stated that there were problems with kids in the City filling out the applications. If that hadn't occurred, what would have been our capability as far as the number of kids?

Dr. Wood: The program is scalable; to what extent it's scalable, I've never asked that question. I do believe it's scalable to the point of our funds that primarily go to paying the students wages. We

should have capacity between the three funders to fund up to 175 kids, but yet only 136 went through the program.

If there are no other questions, I thank you very much.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter: Thank you very much. I wanted to talk about a letter I sent to the Board and to Dr. Wood after the conversation that was had at the Strategic Planning Committee where we had discussed what the terms were for the funding of the ARPA money. The very short summary of this is the federal rules provide for use and a presumed eligible applicant for the funding. There are lists of classifications of folks and of uses that are presumed to be eligible. If you don't meet that particular presumption, there is also a process you could use through which to make an independent eligibility determination. That is essentially that the applicant has to identify what economic harm or impact was caused upon them by coronavirus and then secondly how the project that they are proposing to be funded reasonably responds to the harm or negative economic impact that was caused as a result of coronavirus and the response has to be reasonably proportionate to the harm caused. So, if your harm was, "I lost \$50 in my business, but I need \$50,000 worth of funding to recover it," that's not a proportionate response.

There is also additional information in there regarding capital projects; I know we had discussed funding capital projects in the past. Should those be funded, then there is a written justification process that needs to be undertaken as well so that we can comply with the government reporting requirements. Those reports would have to go directly up to the Department of Treasury. As we don't have a direct line for reporting to the Department of Treasury, Mr. Smith, that is something that we would have to supply to the County so that you would be able to use that in your reporting to the Treasury.

If there are any questions on that, please do let me know. Also, Tom had reached out to me late last week with a copy of the revised guidelines, contracts for some upcoming grants that implement the ARP funding, and I will be performing a final review of those so we can get those on the street as soon as possible.

The only other thing that I would like to say is that I did make a disclosure at the Strategic Planning Committee that I do represent the Diverse Erie Commission and so typically when you award a grant, you are authorizing both the solicitor and the executive director to engage in the negotiations with the grantee to come up with a grant agreement. The reason we do that is because we want to make sure that each one of the grant agreements are stylized and individualized for that particular program; there is no real one-size-fits-all agreement that we have ever come into. In this case, I am not going to be involved in those negotiations because of the obvious conflict; I will let that occur at the staff level. Of course, I will be here to draft the contract to implement the results of those negotiations.

Ms. Loll: When you're looking into the laws that they have through the pandemic that we just went through, what information do you utilize to determine what they have lost?

Mr. Wachter: That's a really good question. There is no hard and fast rule as to what the economic impact is or is not. Under the federal rules surrounding the ARP funds, they do have long lists of presumptions as I discussed and summarized in that particular letter. Beyond that, Ms. Loll, I've got to tell you, it's a "does this pass the smell test"; is this is realistic harm that was caused, can we realistically sit here and say that this appears to have had an economic impact that was heightened or

made worse as a result of the coronavirus, or whatever the case may be? So, there is no hard and fast rule. They wanted to make sure there was sufficient flexibility in the rules to allow projects to apply for funding.

Ms. Loll: Thank you.

Dr. Wood: If I can add to the answer that Tim just gave, when we analyze the effects of the economic impacts of coronavirus and justify it for the purposes of this overall, we have several things at our disposal one of which is the ability to (speaker cuts out) are based on the economic distress marker. Another one is the national research that has been done, like the fact that main streets were disproportionately affected by the pandemic, and then we have the research on parks, fields, and trails and the extent to which they became really important for outdoor activity, recreation and wellness as a result of being indoors. So, there are secondary research and then there is primary research that we have done. The primary would be more of the mapping, where we take investments and map it out so we can get a visual. The secondary would be how the national groups, the think tanks, and others have looked at the pandemic.

### OLD BUSINESS

There is no old business to discuss at this time.

### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Resolution Number 10, 2022 – Resolution to enter into agreements with three (3) entities that comprise the recipients of the 2022 Multi-Municipal Collaboration Grant

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Cleaver moves to accept the resolution. Ms. Hess seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- b. Resolution Number 11, 2022 – Resolution to enter into agreements with six (6) applicants to the Mission Main Street Grant Program

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Winschel moves to accept the resolution. Ms. Hess seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

- c. Resolution Number 12, 2022 – Resolution to authorize the executive director to enter into negotiations and execute an agreement with the Erie County Redevelopment Authority and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission for a \$250,000 grant/loan for the purpose of creating the Diverse Erie Revolving Loan Fund of Erie County

Dr. Wood reads the resolution.



Ms. Loll: I have a question. This is half of the amount of money that they originally requested, correct?

Dr. Wood: That is correct.

Ms. Hess: Perry, when you enter into these negotiations, how are you going to determine the difference between a grant or a loan, like you are either going to give a grant or a loan? Is that what you will be working out in the details coming up?

Dr. Wood: We are going to give them a grant. The negotiations will mostly be about how that grant is structured, the terms of that grant, how that grant is drawn down, what types of businesses the grant funds go to. We agreed as a committee that we are not going to participate in the vetting process, that we are not going to sit on a loan committee, but rather this was a higher risk opportunity for small business so we would simply grant them the funds. So, the negotiation will really be about ensuring that the funds go to the businesses that are the target of the loan fund, and then that the drawdown process will be based on the actual loans given by RDA, as opposed to us simply granting the full amount of \$250,000 and waiting for them to expend it. It will be more of a cash flow situation for them.

Ms. Hess: Perfect. Thank you.

Mr. DiPaolo: Dr. Wood, I have a question. What is the County giving to this organization in regards to this? Or is it only us that is giving them the money?

Dr. Wood: Which organization are you referring to?

Mr. DiPaolo: What we're voting on.

Dr. Wood: The fund is administered by the Enterprise Development Fund, which is an affiliate of the Erie County Redevelopment Authority. So, they are the group with the expertise to administer it. The concept of the Diverse Erie Revolving Loan Fund was created by Diverse Erie, which is also known as the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission. That is where the concept comes from. They put \$250,000 of their ARPA dollars into the fund and then they went out and solicited other groups like Erie Community Foundation, Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation, and of course ECGRA.

Mr. DiPaolo: That answers my question. Thank you.

Dr. Wood: Yes sir.

Ms. Hess moves to accept the resolution. Mr. Winschel seconds the motion. There is no further discussion of the resolution. Motion carries 6-0.

## ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Cleaver moves to adjourn. Mr. DiPaolo seconds the motion.

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority  
Profit & Loss  
August 2022**

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Budget YTD</u>	<u>2022-23 YTD</u>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>				
<b>Income</b>				
44800 · Gaming Revenue	1,233,031.14	1,560,788.70		
46400 · Other Types of Income				
46410 · Interest Income - Savings	11,835.35	19,547.41		
46422 · Interest Income - BWC - Erie Growth		7,500.00		
46424 · Interest Income - Progress Fund		10,000.00		
46425 · Interest Income - EDF Restruct		6,500.00		
46426 · Interest Income - BWC - Inclusive		6,250.00		
46427 · Interest Income - Blue Highway		14.31		
46428 · Interest Income - eCAT		5,112.00		
46510 · Interest Income - YLI	8,272.00	50,590.80		
<b>Total Income</b>	<u>1,253,138.49</u>	<u>1,666,303.22</u>		
<b>Expense</b>				
62100 · Contracted Services	6,343.86	30,496.92	30,000.00	72,000.00
62800 · Facilities & Equipment	-152.50	5,362.47	11,665.00	28,000.00
65000 · Office Administration	1,558.16	6,055.11	7,480.00	17,950.00
65100 · Other Types of Expenses	1,712.38	12,416.40	19,875.00	47,700.00
65500 · PASCUDU	1,171.84	1,171.84	6,355.00	15,250.00
66000 · Payroll Expenses	25,786.33	117,550.30	130,850.00	314,050.00
67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)	10,316.24	33,138.74	1,666,665.00	4,000,000.00
7000 · Provision for Uncollect Notes	0.00	12,800.00		
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>46,736.31</u>	<u>218,991.78</u>	<u>1,872,890.00</u>	<u>4,494,950.00</u>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	1,206,402.18	1,447,311.44		
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>				
70000 · Grants / Settlements / MRIs				
70030 · Community Assets		(11,942.55)		
70050 · Municipal Settlements	308,257.79	390,197.18		
70070 · Special Events		165,097.25		
70090 · Multi-Municipal Collaboration				
70100 · Mission Main Street	110,000.00	291,422.18		
70120 · Summer Jobs Program		53,867.10		
70125 · Neighborhoods & Communities MRI				
70130 · Small Business Financing		105,877.00		
70140 · Pilot Projects				
70150 · Shaping Tomorrow				
70170 · Renaissance Block	130,000.00	180,000.00		
70180 · Anchor Building		60,000.00		
70190 · COVID-19 Immediate Human Relief				
70200 · Community Enterprise Financing		63,920.00		
<b>Total 70000 · Grants / Settlements</b>	<u>548,257.79</u>	<u>1,298,438.16</u>		
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>(548,257.79)</u>	<u>(1,298,438.16)</u>		
<b>Net Income</b>	<u><b>658,144.39</b></u>	<u><b>148,873.28</b></u>		

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Balance Sheet**  
As of August 31, 2022

	<b>August</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current Assets</b>	
Checking/Savings	52,742.86
10000 · ErieBank - Checking	
10100 · ErieBank - Savings	
10101 · Committed Funds	1,974,850.30
10102 · Restricted Funds	3,239,389.89
10104 · ARPA Fund	3,956,485.78
10100 · ErieBank - Savings - Other	7,553,069.84
<b>Total 10100 · ErieBank - Savings</b>	<b>16,723,795.81</b>
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	16,776,538.67
<b>Other Current Assets</b>	
12000 · Notes Receivable	
12003 · NR - CIBA	4,635.00
12004 · NR - BWC - Erie Growth	1,000,000.00
12005 · NR - Progress Fund	1,000,000.00
12010 · NR - 1855 Capital	500,000.00
12050 · NR - EDF Restructured	1,300,000.00
12060 · NR - BWC - Inclusive Erie	2,500,000.00
12070 · NR - 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 · NR - eCAT	500,000.00
12500 · NR - Youth Leadership Institute	188,000.00
12900 · Reserve for Uncollectable Notes	(1,542,800.00)
<b>Total 12000 · Notes Receivable</b>	<b>6,319,835.00</b>
14500 · Prepaid Insurance	3,563.79
<b>Total Other Current Assets</b>	<b>6,323,398.79</b>
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>23,099,937.46</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>23,099,937.46</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
<b>Current Liabilities</b>	
20100* · Deferred Revenue	(4,000,000.00)
20300 · Unerarned Revenue	7,989,488.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>3,989,488.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>3,989,488.00</b>
<b>Equity</b>	
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	2,927,064.18
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	16,015,592.00
Net Income	167,793.28
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>19,110,449.46</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>23,099,937.46</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority  
Budget vs. Actual  
August 2022**

Expense	Over/(Under)				% of Budget
	August	YTD	Budget	Budget	
<b>62100 · Contracted Services</b>					
62110 · Accounting Fees	0.00	8,950.00	7,500.00	1,450.00	119.33%
62130 · Professional Services	6,000.00	15,000.00	40,000.00	(25,000.00)	37.50%
62140 · Legal Services	214.50	4,933.50	20,000.00	(15,066.50)	24.67%
62145 · Website Design	0.00	1,140.00	3,000.00	(1,860.00)	38.00%
62150 · Payroll Services	129.36	473.42	1,500.00	(1,026.58)	31.56%
<b>Total 62100 · Contracted Services</b>	<b>6,343.86</b>	<b>30,496.92</b>	<b>72,000.00</b>	<b>(41,503.08)</b>	<b>42.36%</b>
<b>62800 · Facilities &amp; Equipment</b>					
62840 · Office Equipment	0.00	147.97	10,000.00	(9,852.03)	1.48%
62890 · Rent	-152.50	5,214.50	18,000.00	(12,785.50)	28.97%
<b>Total 62800 · Facilities &amp; Equipment</b>	<b>-152.50</b>	<b>5,362.47</b>	<b>28,000.00</b>	<b>(22,637.53)</b>	<b>19.15%</b>
<b>65000 · Office Administration</b>					
65010 · Books, Subscriptions, Dues	721.89	2,112.88	3,000.00	(887.12)	70.43%
65020 · Postage	19.07	95.35	500.00	(404.65)	19.07%
65040 · Office Supplies	33.75	502.56	2,000.00	(1,497.44)	25.13%
65050 · Cell Phone	0.00	700.62	3,000.00	(2,299.38)	23.35%
65060 · Copier Lease	657.30	1,556.75	4,200.00	(2,643.25)	37.07%
65070 · Copier Printing Costs	0.00	3.70	500.00	(496.30)	0.74%
65080 · Bank Fees	95.00	235.00	500.00	(265.00)	47.00%
65085 · Professional Development	0.00	350.00	2,000.00	(1,650.00)	17.50%
65090 · Meeting Expenses	31.15	498.25	2,000.00	(1,501.75)	24.91%
65095 · Miscellaneous Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)	0.00%
<b>Total 65000 · Office Administration</b>	<b>1,558.16</b>	<b>6,055.11</b>	<b>17,950.00</b>	<b>(11,894.89)</b>	<b>33.73%</b>
<b>65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>					
65105 · Outreach	0.00	84.69	5,000.00	(4,915.31)	1.69%
65110 · Advertising	0.00	98.92	4,000.00	(3,901.08)	2.47%
65115 · Phone/IT/Fax	832.71	7,547.33	18,000.00	(10,452.67)	41.93%
65120 · Insurance	879.67	4,398.35	10,200.00	(5,801.65)	43.12%
65130 · Grant Management Software	0.00	0.00	5,500.00	(5,500.00)	0.00%
65150 · Travel	0.00	287.11	5,000.00	(4,712.89)	5.74%
<b>Total 65100 · Other Types of Expenses</b>	<b>1,712.38</b>	<b>12,416.40</b>	<b>47,700.00</b>	<b>(35,283.60)</b>	<b>26.03%</b>
<b>65500 · PASCDU</b>	<b>1,171.84</b>	<b>1,171.84</b>	<b>15,250.00</b>	<b>(14,078.16)</b>	<b>7.68%</b>
<b>66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>					
66005 · Salaries & Wages	21,584.44	99,344.26	276,400.00	(177,055.74)	35.94%
66010 · FITW Tax	2,053.95	8,397.11	17,400.00	(9,002.89)	48.26%
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	2,147.94	9,808.93	18,100.00	(8,291.07)	54.19%
<b>Total 66000 · Payroll Expenses</b>	<b>25,786.33</b>	<b>117,550.30</b>	<b>314,050.00</b>	<b>(196,499.70)</b>	<b>37.43%</b>
<b>67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)</b>					
67005 · Contracted Services - ARPA	2,067.00	3,120.00	273,274.00	(270,154.00)	1.14%
67025 · Indirect Costs - ARPA	272.54	1,349.04	11,295.00	(9,945.96)	11.94%
67030 · Salaries & Wages - ARPA	7,976.70	28,669.70	93,406.00	(64,736.30)	30.69%
<b>Total 67000 · Building a Better Future (ARPA)</b>	<b>10,316.24</b>	<b>33,138.74</b>	<b>377,975.00</b>	<b>(344,836.26)</b>	<b>43.78%</b>
<b>7000 · Provision for Uncollect Notes</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>12,800.00</b>	<b>12,800.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>46,736.31</b>	<b>218,991.78</b>	<b>885,725.00</b>	<b>(666,733.22)</b>	<b>24.72%</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**August 31, 2022**

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Totals/Subtotals</u>
<b>Restricted Uncommitted Funds</b>	3,239,389.89		
<b>Committed Funds</b>	1,974,850.30		
<b>ARPA Funds</b>	3,956,485.78		
<b>2022 Restricted Funds: (75% - after settlement payments)</b>			
First Quarter Gaming Revenue		245,818.17	
Second Quarter Gaming Revenue	924,773.35	924,773.35	
Third Quarter Gaming Revenue			
Fourth Quarter Gaming Revenue			<b>1,170,591.52</b>
<b>FY Disbursements:</b>			
First Quarter Disbursements		776,260.31	
Second Quarter Disbursements	548,257.79	612,177.79	
Third Quarter Disbursements			
Fourth Quarter Disbursements			<b>1,388,438.10</b>

**Disbursements Detail**

**Grants/Settlements**

	<u>August</u>	<u>YTD</u>	<u>Subtotal</u>
<b>COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE FINANCING LOAN</b>			
<b>MUNICIPALITIES</b>			
<b>Settlements</b>			
Summit Township	138,715.99	175,588.73	
Greene Township	33,908.36	42,921.69	
McKean Township	33,908.36	42,921.69	
Millcreek Township	33,908.36	42,921.69	
Waterford Township	33,908.36	42,921.69	
Erie County	33,908.36	42,921.69	
			<b>390,197.18</b>

**Multi-Municipal Collaboration**

**NEIGHBORHOODS & COMMUNITIES**

**Anchor Building**

2018 Emmaus Ministries, Inc.		5,000.00	
Performing Artists Collective Alliance		5,000.00	
2021 Performing Artists Collective Alliance		50,000.00	
			<b>60,000.00</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**August 31, 2022**

	August	YTD	Subtotal
<b>Mission Main Street</b>			
2018 Erie Downtown Partnership		134,108.00	
2019 Borough of North East Preservation Erie	110,000.00	110,000.00 (8,185.82)	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		55,500.00	
2020 Borough of Girard		45,000.00	
			<b>336,422.18</b>
 <b>Renaissance Block</b>			
2020 Borough of North East	30,000.00	30,000.00	
2021 Borough of Union City		50,000.00	
2022 Borough of Union City	100,000.00	100,000.00	
			<b>180,000.00</b>

**PILOT PROGRAMS**

**QUALITY OF PLACE**

**Community Assets**

2018 Harborcreek Township		(11,942.55)	
			<b>(11,942.55)</b>

**Special Events**

Albion Area Fair, Inc.	9,560.40
Asbury Woods Partnership	1,855.16
Borough of Edinboro	1,315.95
Borough of Wesleyville	781.53
CAFE	16,507.50
Crime Victim Center of Erie County, Inc,	2,504.22
Downtown North East	2,979.26
Edinboro Arts & Music Festival	3,022.50
Erie Contemporary Ballet Theatre	5,068.04
Erie Downtown Partnership	6,300.75
Erie Homes for Children and Adults	930.70
Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partner.	4,650.00
Erie-Western PA Port Authority	6,165.46
Film Society of NWPA	6,863.40
Fort LeBoeuf Historical Society	841.65
Goodell Gardens & Homestead	1,655.40
Harborcreek Township	1,162.50
Holy Trinity RC Church	6,347.25
Humane Society of NWPA	4,650.00
Impact Corry	1,148.55
Iroquois School District Foundation	1,962.30
Jefferson Educational Society of Erie	20,000.00
Lake Erie Fanfare	4,394.25
Lake Erie Greek Cultural Society	7,440.00

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**August 31, 2022**

	August	YTD	Subtotal
<b>Special Events (cont.)</b>			
Mercy Center For Women		910.24	
Nonprofit Partnership, The		3,514.24	
Presque Isle Light Station		576.60	
Presque Isle Partnership		4,008.30	
Saint Joseph Church		6,783.19	
SSJ Neighborhood Network		4,726.61	
Union City Pride, Inc.		1,209.00	
Waterford Community Fair Association		7,851.76	
Wattsburg Agricultural Society		10,481.57	
YMCA of Greater Erie		1,422.90	
Young Artists Debut Orchestra		4,201.74	
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie		1,304.33	
			<b>165,097.25</b>
<b>SHAPING TOMORROW</b>			
<b>SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING</b>			
<b>Beehive Network</b>			
Erie Regional Library Foundation		5,877.00	
Penn State University		100,000.00	
<b>Community Enterprise Financing Loan</b>			
Youth Leadership Institute of Erie		63,920.00	
			<b>169,797.00</b>
<b>YOUTH &amp; EDUCATION</b>			
<b>Summer Jobs &amp; More</b>			
		53,867.10	
			<b>53,867.10</b>
<b>Total Funds Disbursements</b>	548,257.79	1,343,438.16	<b>1,343,438.16</b>

**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Schedule of Grant Reserve**  
as of  
**August 31, 2022**

		<u>August</u>	<u>Amount Remaining</u>	<u>Original Commitment</u>
<b>Committed Funds:</b>				
<b>N&amp;C</b>	<b>Renaissance Block 2018</b>			
	1 Academy Neighborhood Association		11,250.00	22,500.00
	SSJ Neighborhood Network		7,000.00	70,000.00
	<b>2 Bayfront Eastside Taskforce</b>		25,000.00	50,000.00
	ServErie		29,000.00	58,000.00
	<b>Renaissance Block 2020</b>			
	Borough of North East	30,000.00	0.00	60,000.00
	<b>Renaissance Block 2021</b>			
	Impact Corry		50,000.00	100,000.00
	<b>Renaissance Block 2022</b>			
	Borough of Union City	100,000.00	0.00	100,000.00
	<b>Anchor Building</b>			
	19 Housing & Neighborhood Development Services		40,000.00	50,000.00
	Impact Corry		60,000.00	75,000.00
	20 Borough of Union City		15,000.00	64,375.00
	<b>Mission Main Street</b>			
	1 Borough of North East	110,000.00	0.00	250,000.00
	City of Erie		225,000.00	250,000.00
	3 Impact Corry		28,000.00	202,400.00
	Waterford Borough		84,600.00	249,800.00
<b>MUN</b>	<b>Multi-Municipal Collaboration</b>			
	21 Borough of North East		50,000.00	100,000.00
<b>SB</b>	<b>Beehive Network</b>			
	<b>Community Enterprise Financing Loan</b>			
	Youth Leadership Institute of Erie		0.00	188,000.00
<b>PP</b>	<b>Pilot Program</b>			
<b>QP</b>	<b>Response Fund (COVID)</b>			
	Small Business		680,000.00	1,200,000.00
	Non-Profit		300,000.00	400,000.00
<b>Y&amp;E</b>	<b>Shaping Tomorrow</b>			
	Empower Erie - Community College		220,000.00	400,000.00
	<b>GECAC - Summer Jobs Program 2022</b>		150,000.00	150,000.00
<b>Total Committed Funds</b>		<b>240,000.00</b>	<b>1,974,850.00</b>	<b>4,040,075.00</b>
<b>ARPA Transformative Funds</b>				
	<b>Subawards</b>	0.00	3,622,025.00	3,622,025.00
	<b>Contracted Services</b>	2,067.00	263,540.50	273,274.00
	<b>Salaries &amp; Wages</b>	7,976.70	61,240.03	93,406.00
	<b>Indirect Costs</b>	272.54	9,680.25	11,295.00
		<b>10,316.24</b>	<b>3,956,485.78</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>
<b>Total ARPA Funds</b>				



**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
**Transaction List Detail**  
**August 2022**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Num</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Memo</u>	<u>Amount</u>
08/03/2022	EFT	VISA	2022 July Statement	-805.86
08/03/2022	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	7/16/22 to 7/29/22 Payroll	-9,426.87
08/03/2022	EFT	Fidelity Investments	7/16/22 to 7/29/22 Simple IRA	-250.00
08/03/2022	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 7/29/2022	-715.98
08/04/2022	EFT	Deloitte.	2022 MMS Speaker	-1,950.00
08/04/2022	EFT	Erie Bank	Wire Fee	-60.00
08/08/2022	EFT	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	2022 July Legal - ARPA	-117.00
08/08/2022	EFT	Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett	2022 July Legal	-214.50
08/08/2022	EFT	Velocity Network, Inc.	2022 August Phone/IT	-918.15
08/08/2022	EFT	Wells Fargo Financial Leasing	2022 July, August Copier Lease	-691.90
08/16/2022	EFT	Summit Township	Q2 Settlement Payment	-138,715.99
08/16/2022	EFT	Greene Township	Q2 Settlement Payment	-33,908.36
08/16/2022	EFT	McKean Township	Q2 Settlement Payment	-33,908.36
08/16/2022	EFT	Millcreek Township	Q2 Settlement Payment	-33,908.36
08/16/2022	EFT	Waterford Township	Q2 Settlement Payment	-33,908.36
08/16/2022	EFT	Erie County	Q2 Settlement Payment	-33,908.36
08/16/2022	EFT	Parker Philips	2022 June, July Professional Services	-6,000.00
08/17/2022	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	7/30/22to 8/12/22 Payroll	-8,841.85
08/17/2022	EFT	Fidelity Investments	7/30/22 to 8/12/22 Simple IRA	-250.00
08/17/2022	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 8/12/22	-715.98
08/17/2022	EFT	Borough of North East	2020 Renaissance Block - Final Payment	-30,000.00
08/17/2022	EFT	UPMC Health Plan	2022 August Benefits	-3,883.88
08/17/2022	EFT	PASCDU	2022 August	-585.92
08/18/2022	EFT	Borough of Union City	2022 Renaissance Block	-100,000.00
08/23/2022	EFT	Borough of North East	2019 Mission Main Street - Final Payment	-110,000.00
08/31/2022	EFT	ECCA, Inc.	8/13/22 to 8/26/22 Payroll	-8,841.85
08/31/2022	EFT	Fidelity Investments	8/13/22 to 8/26/22 Simple IRA	-250.00
08/31/2022	EFT	PMRS	Pay Ending 8/26/2022	-715.98
08/31/2022	EFT	PASCDU	2022 August	-585.92
08/31/2022	EFT	Erie Bank	Service Charge	-35.00



<b>SCORECARD</b>	<b>CASHBACK CURRENT BALANCE</b>	<b>CASHBACK PAYOUT DATE</b>
	\$0.00	05/15/2023

**Account Summary**

Billing Cycle		07/10/2022
Days In Billing Cycle		31
Previous Balance		\$301.61
Purchases	+	\$805.86
Cash	+	\$0.00
Balance Transfers	+	\$0.00
Special	+	\$0.00
Credits	-	\$0.00
Payments	-	\$301.61-
Other Charges	+	\$0.00
Finance Charges	+	\$0.00

**NEW BALANCE \$805.86**

**Credit Summary**

Total Credit Line	\$40,000.00
Available Credit Line	\$39,194.14
Available Cash	\$39,194.14
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](http://WWW.MyCardStatement.com)
- Write us at PO BOX 30495, TAMPA, FL 33630-3495

**Payment Summary**

<b>NEW BALANCE</b>	<b>\$805.86</b>
<b>MINIMUM PAYMENT</b>	<b>\$805.86</b>
<b>PAYMENT DUE DATE</b>	<b>08/04/2022</b>

*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				\$301.61-
Trans Date	Post Date	Reference Number	Transaction Description	Amount
07/01	07/01	1607900038	INTERNET PMT-THANK YOU	\$301.61-

**Cardholder Account Summary**

TAMMI MICHALI ####-####-####-9468	Payments & Other Credits	Purchases & Other Charges	Cash Advances	Total Activity
	\$0.00	\$805.86	\$0.00	\$805.86

**Cardholder Account Detail**

Trans Date	Post Date	Plan Name	Reference Number	Description	Amount
06/11	06/12	PBUS01	24692162162100817211751	CURRENT CATALOG 310-299-4100 CO	\$18.75 U.S
06/14	06/15	PBUS01	24801972166690227983201	AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCI 312-786-6398 IL	\$498.00 member
06/18	06/19	PBUS01	24011342169000040542870	ZOOM.US 888-799-9666 WWW.ZOOM.US CA	\$158.89 subscri

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

<b>Closing Date</b>	<b>New Balance</b>	<b>Total Minimum Payment Due</b>	<b>Payment Due Date</b>
07/10/22	\$805.86	\$805.86	08/04/22

\$

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
06/21	06/22	PBUS01	24692162172100286515458	STAMPS.COM 855-808-2677 CA	\$19.07 <i>postage</i>
06/21	06/23	PBUS01	24121572173000172210182	KOLDROCK WATERS, INC. 000-0000000 PA	\$15.00 <i>OS</i>
06/28	06/29	PBUS01	24137462180001277383004	GIANT EAGLE #4038 ERIE PA	\$31.15 <i>mtg</i>
07/04	07/06	PBUS01	24789302186469101675254	GANNETT NEWSRPR NE 888-8710686 IN	\$65.00 <i>subscr</i>

**Additional Information About Your Account**

MANAGE YOUR CARD ACCOUNT ONLINE. IT'S FREE! IT'S EASY! SIMPLY GO TO [WWW.MYCARDSTATEMENT.COM](http://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 07/08/2022**

SCORECARD	Beginning Balance	Current Earned	CashBack Adjusted	Ending Balance	CashBack Payout Date
	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	05/15/2023

**Finance Charge Summary / Plan Level Information**

Plan Name	Plan Description	FCM <sup>1</sup>	Average Daily Balance	Periodic Rate *	Corresponding APR	Finance Charges	Effective APR Fees **	Effective APR	Ending Balance
<b>Purchases</b>									
PBUS01 001	PURCHASE	E	\$0.00	0.70833%(M)	8.5000%(V)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.0000%	\$805.86
<b>Cash</b>									
CBUS01 001	CASH	G	\$0.00	0.70833%(M)	8.5000%(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		
<sup>1</sup> FCM = Finance Charge Method									
(V) = Variable Rate If you have a variable rate account the periodic rate and Annual Percentage Rate (APR) may vary.									



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

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT  
FOR  
SEPTEMBER  
2022**

**Lander, Bridget**

**From:** Knight, Ericka  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:45 PM  
**To:** Lander, Bridget  
**Subject:** FW: Local Share Assessment Payment Notification - Erie County

00332

Q2 2022

**From:** Sparber, James <JSparber@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 12:39 PM  
**To:** Knight, Ericka <EKnight@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** FW: Local Share Assessment Payment Notification - Erie County

Ericka, Please see below. The gaming money is coming! Jim

**From:** RV, BFM Gaming <RA-BFM-Gaming@pa.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 26, 2022 11:55 AM  
**To:** Sparber, James <JSparber@eriecountypa.gov>  
**Subject:** Local Share Assessment Payment Notification - Erie County

Dear Mr. Sparber:

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

Erie County: \$2,722,549.06  
Land Bank Jurisdiction: \$271,649.85

An ACH for the 2nd quarter of 2022 payment in the amount of \$3,011,719.05 should be deposited in your bank account within 7 - 10 business days. This payment includes the interactive gaming local share assessment of \$17,520.14, the slots local share assessment of \$494,198.91 and the slot machine license operation fee of \$2,500,000.00. Any reductions to the Gross Interactive Gaming Revenue (GIGR) and Gross Terminal Revenue (GTR) for promotional items is the result of the Gaming Bulletin 2015-01 and the Pennsylvania Supreme Court's April 28, 2014 decision in Greenwood Gaming and Entertainment Incorporated v. Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Revenue (90 A.3d 699 (Pa. 2014)).

If you have any questions, please let me know.

BANK 067

Thank you.

① ERIE county 067-021010-042100  
 $2,740,069.20 \times .55 = 1,507,038.06$

**Jennifer Heckert** | Division Chief  
PA Department of Revenue  
Bureau of Fiscal Management | Gaming Division  
1147 Strawberry Square | Harrisburg PA 17128  
Phone: 717.346.4004 | Fax: 717.787.6738  
E-mail: [jheckert@pa.gov](mailto:jheckert@pa.gov)  
[www.revenue.pa.gov](http://www.revenue.pa.gov)

\$1,504,680.99

② [REDACTED] 067-021010-042100  
 $2,740,069.20 \times .45 = 1,233,031.14$

Our mission is to fairly, efficiently and accurately administer the tax laws and other revenue programs of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

③ LAND BANK 067-021010-042100

271.649.85



**COUNTY OF ERIE**  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATION

Brenton Davis,  
County Executive

Douglas R. Smith,  
Director of Administration

## MEMORANDUM

To: Members of County Council

From: Brenton Davis, County Executive

Date: August 8, 2022

Re: Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority – District 6

---

Council,

I hereby convey my support for the appointment of Robert S. Oberlander to a five-year term to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. This term will expire on December 31, 2026. This will be his first term representing District 6.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Davis".

Thank You  
Brenton

Approved by County Council on August 16, 2022, 7 -0.



# COUNTY OF ERIE

ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL

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## MEMORANDUM

**To: Brenton Davis, County Executive**

**From: Charlie Bayle**

**Date: August 8, 2022**

**RE: Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority – District 6**

---

I am requesting your support for the appointment of Robert S. Oberlander to a five-year term to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. This term will expire on December 31, 2026. His resume is attached for your review. This will be his first term representing District 6.

Thank you for your consideration.

**Cc: Perry N. Wood, Executive Director**  
File

## ***Robert S. Oberlander***

1567 Sedgwick Road, Waterford, PA 16441

### ***Work Experience***

President

Swiss Aero Inc, CNC Precision Machining Company that employees 30+, located in Waterford since 2008. Focusing primarily on contract machining for several industries including Aero-engine bearing components, High-pressure valves, quick disconnect couplings, electrical connectors, as well as many other commercial and transportation sectors.

Several Real Estate interests/development projects in Waterford, Summit, Erie, Union City, General McLane, and Harborcreek.

### ***Education***

Penn State Behrend, 1995, Bachelor of Science, Mechanical Engineering

### ***Current Community Service/Organizations***

School Board Director (Vice President), Fort LeBoeuf School District

Waterford Community Food Pantry

Kiwanis Club of FLB

Manufacturers & Business Association

### ***Mission Statement***

*I believe that community service organizations are a great way to give back to your community by giving individuals opportunities to grow and businesses that helping hand needed to expand and thrive in the community.*



**Tammi Michali**

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**From:** Mary Wassell <wassell@parkerphilips.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 2, 2022 10:12 AM  
**Cc:** Kate Philips  
**Subject:** ADVISORY: Diverse Erie To Launch Small Business Fund, Leverages Funding to Create Investment in BIPOC Companies



**DIVERSE.**  
**erie**  
DIVERSITY EQUITY INCLUSION

**\*\*\*ADVISORY\*\*\*ADVISORY\*\*\*ADVISORY\*\*\*ADVISORY\*\*\*ADVISORY\*\*\*ADVISORY\*\*\***

## **Diverse Erie To Launch Small Business Fund, Leverages Funding to Create Investment in BIPOC Companies**

*Will support business growth, advance equity among BIPOC-owned businesses in Erie County*

**CONTACT:** Kate Philips  
[philips@parkerphilips.com](mailto:philips@parkerphilips.com)  
215.850.4647 | mobile

**ERIE, PA (September 2, 2022)** – Diverse Erie will launch the organization’s second grant program in collaboration with key public and private partners — the Small Business Fund — at a press conference on Tuesday, September 6, 2022, beginning at 10:00am outside Beez Appliance located at 916 Parade Street.

In support of a key initiative in Erie’s Inclusive Growth, Diverse Erie leveraged \$500,000 and will launch a fund that will support the creation and growth of BIPOC-owned businesses in Erie County. This fund will work to break down barriers and empower BIPOC business owners to succeed.

**WHAT:** Diverse Erie Press Conference Announcing Grant Opportunity

**WHO:** Gary Lee, Chief Administrative Officer, Diverse Erie  
Gerald Blanks, Diverse Erie Board Chairperson and CEO, Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation  
Kyra Taylor, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Erie’s Black Wall Street and Board Member, Enterprise Development Fund  
Dr. Perry Wood, Executive Director, ECGRA  
Patrick Herr, Vice President of Community Impact, Erie Community Foundation

**WHEN:** September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.  
**WHERE:** Beez Appliances  
916 Parade Street  
Erie, PA 16503

**About Diverse Erie**

*Diverse Erie, Erie County's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission was unanimously created in September 2021 following Erie County's bold step toward ending the public health crisis that exists among people of color. Diverse Erie will leverage public resources to attract private resources to be invested toward generational impact, focusing on three strategic areas where BIPOC face large disparities: training and education, homeownership, and business development. By investing in initiatives and ideas that advance equity in Erie County, Diverse Erie will work to create an environment where all people of color are welcome and included. To join the #DiverseErie conversation and learn more, visit [www.DiverseErie.org](http://www.DiverseErie.org).*

###

**Tammi Michali**

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**From:** Mary Wassell <wassell@parkerphilips.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 6, 2022 11:35 AM  
**Cc:** Kate Philips  
**Subject:** RELEASE: Diverse Erie Launches Small Business Fund, Leverages Funding to Create \$1.8 million Investment in BIPOC-owned Businesses



**DIVERSE.**  
**erie**  
DIVERSITY EQUITY INCLUSION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Diverse Erie Launches Small Business Fund, Leverages Funding to Create \$1.8 million Investment in BIPOC Companies**

*Will support business growth, advance equity among BIPOC-owned businesses in Erie County*

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**ERIE, PA (September 6, 2022)** – In support of a key initiative in Erie's Inclusive Growth and the aligned Investment Playbook, Diverse Erie, the Erie Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission, leveraged \$500,000 to launch a nearly \$2 million fund that will support the creation and growth of BIPOC-owned businesses in Erie County. The Diverse Erie Small Business Fund was launched at a press conference today with investors outside Beez Appliance.

"The Small Business Fund is truly a meaningful and sustainable program that will not only support business growth among local BIPOC-owned businesses, but also help to attract companies to Erie County," said Gerald L. Blanks, Diverse Erie Board Chairperson. "This fund also represents the power of leveraging funds to advance economic development goals to support future generations."

The commission earmarked \$500,000 and leveraged those funds by bringing together public and private partners to create the \$1.8 million fund. Fund contributors include:

- Erie County Redevelopment Authority (ECRDA): \$250,000
- Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority (ECGRA): \$250,000
- Erie Community Foundation (ECF): \$125,000
- Greater Erie Economic Development Corporation (GEEDC): \$250,000

- o Enterprise Development Fund (EDF): \$500,000

“This initiative is so important because it specifically works to empower and lift up Erie’s Black community — it serves to help build equity among business owners and improve outcomes,” said Kyra Taylor, Co-Founder and Executive Director, Erie’s Black Wall Street and Board Member, Enterprise Development Fund. “By investing in local BIPOC businesses we are helping them to grow and succeed, while attracting new businesses to the region.”

“We need to create a stronger regional economy by developing on ramps of success for all those who dare to call themselves entrepreneurs,” said Dr. Perry Wood, Executive Director, ECGRA. “This Fund will actively seek out pockets of innovation in job shops, actively prospect the neighborhoods that suffered from redlining, and meet with the overleveraged and under promised.”

“When barriers exist, the road to small business success can be a long, overly disproportionately arduous path — a tough reality BIPOC-owned businesses face,” said Karen Bilowith, President & CEO, Erie Community Foundation. “By partnering with other Erie County organizations, this fund recognizes diversity and equity are worthy goals that will benefit the entire County.”

The Diverse Erie Small Business fund will be housed and administered by the Enterprise Development Fund (EDF) — the only Erie County based certified Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). CDFI’s are private financial institutions, backed by the U.S. Department of the Treasury, that are dedicated to responsible, affordable lending to help low-income, low-wealth and other disadvantaged, underserved people and communities. The EDF, which already houses a small diverse loan program from the PA Minority Business Development Authority (PMBDA), has significant experience in small business lending to BIPOC-owned companies.

“One of the key priorities of the playbook is to boost entrepreneurship, with a focus on BIPOC-owned small businesses, and this Diverse Erie fund fits the exact mold of our goals,” said Kim Thomas, Director, Erie’s Inclusive Growth and the aligned Investment Playbook. “Through collaboration of different organizations, Erie is endeavoring on a journey that will transform our community.”

“By working together, we are advancing our mission to create a diverse and inclusive county that advances equity for our BIPOC-residents,” said Gary Lee, Chief Administrative Officer, Diverse Erie. “The Small Business Fund will meet the changing needs and demands in our evolving economy for emerging small businesses.

“Diverse Erie is thrilled to be partnering with established public and private organizations to bring our vision of creating an environment where all people of color are welcomed and included to life.”

Loans will range from \$25,000 up to \$250,000, and a committee made up of representatives from the funders will oversee the applications.

To apply and learn more, visit <https://diverseerie.org/business-development/>.

### **About Diverse Erie**

*Diverse Erie, Erie County’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Commission was unanimously created in September 2021 following Erie County’s bold step toward ending the public health crisis that exists among people of color. Diverse Erie will leverage public resources to attract private resources to be invested toward generational impact, focusing on three strategic areas where BIPOC face large disparities: training and education, homeownership, and business development. By investing in initiatives and ideas that advance equity in Erie County, Diverse Erie will work to create an environment where all people of color are welcome and included. To join the #DiverseErie conversation and learn more, visit [www.DiverseErie.org](http://www.DiverseErie.org).*

# UPCOMING FESTIVALS



## From Hive to Honey: The Honey Bee Story

**Date:** September 17

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Location:** Nature Center

**Program Fee:** \$6, children under three are free

**Pre-registration preferred**

From Hive to Honey celebrates the wonderful honey bee and the vital role it plays in agriculture, pollination and the food chain. The event offers fun and learning for all ages in an outdoor setting. Kids and adults alike will delight in the honey extractor demonstrations, learning how to harvest honey from a honeycomb and touring Asbury Woods' bee hives. Learn all about the science and social life of the amazing honey bee!

Sponsored by:



## Scary Creature Feature

**Dates:** October 13, 14 and 15

**Time:** 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Nature Center

**Program Fee:** \$9, children under two are free

**Registration Required**

This is a family event, complete with activities, storytelling and a guided walk through the woods where guests encounter and learn about some not-so-scary nocturnal creatures that live in the forest. It's the perfect chance to explore the woods at night and enjoy the cool, crisp air of an autumn evening.

Sponsored by:



## Winter Wonderland

**Dates:** December 1 – 31 (except December 24 and 25)

**Time:** 5:30 – 8:30 p.m.

**Location:** Nature Center

**FREE, open to the public.**

Donations accepted but not required.

Our extended version of Winter Wonderland is back! The boardwalk adjacent to the Andrew J. Conner Nature Center at Asbury Woods will be lit up each night in December (except December 24 and 25) from 5:30 – 8:30 p.m. for the community to enjoy a peaceful evening stroll on the boardwalk through the woods. Holiday lights will twinkle in the woods and wetlands along the boardwalk which covers 1/3 of a mile. Stop inside the Nature Center and view our animal exhibit and browse holiday items for sale in our expanded gift shop with products from local artisans.

Sponsored by:





August 17, 2022

Perry Wood  
ECGRA  
5340 Fryling Road #201  
Erie, PA 16510

Dear Perry,

On behalf of the Erie Humane Society, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for partnering with the EHS to host our 3<sup>rd</sup> Rock -n- Rescue Charity Concert. We are exceedingly grateful for the support we receive from the community, especially those businesses, community members and organizations who chose to sponsor our 2022 concert.

Returning to a normal fundraising year, after making many modifications over the last two years due to Covid, has been exciting. The Erie Humane Society relies on fundraisers to cover over 30% of our operating budget and having your support truly helped make this evening a success.

Great music doesn't just happen! In addition to artistic vision, hard work and dedicated planning, it takes the support of the community to make the excellent, innovative, and engaging performances you heard on Saturday a reality.

Many thanks to our Diamond and Platinum sponsors, New Motors and Accudyn as well as the many sponsors, participants, and volunteers. You are all incredible, and we are fortunate to have you supporting the Erie Humane Society's mission!

We are already talking about our 2023 concert, and we hope you are as excited as we are. If you would like to sponsor this unforgettable event in 2023, please do not hesitate to reach out.

From the bottom of our hearts and their paws,

Nicole Leone  
Executive Director  
Erie Humane Society  
nicole@eriehumanesociety.org

Perry- it was great seeing you at the concert! I hope you had an amazing time.



## Erie is Cooking Up Something New

*Erie's Inclusive Growth: A Playbook for Action* provides menu for \$1.1 billion of investment strategies and projects

By Ben Speggen

To better know what something is, sometimes it is best to first understand what it is not. In the case of *Erie's Inclusive Growth: A Playbook for Action*, it is important to recognize it is not another plan.

Bruce Katz and Kim Thomas are each quick to make that point to me on separate Zoom call interviews. Both are well-positioned to know what *Erie's 'Playbook'* both is and can be. And knowing the who behind it and in front of it helps to comprehend both the what and the what-comes-next.

Katz is the founding director of The New Localism Advisors. He is the playbook's architect, along with Florian Schalliol.

Thomas has been hired to direct the investment playbooks' "Nerve Center" — a distinctive feature of both the present and future of the playbook, which will provide, as the playbook notes, "day-to-day support to the entities implementing the projects of the Playbook." That is, moving forward from its announcement, there is already infrastructure in place to get identified projects moving along.

Neither Katz nor Thomas are strangers to Erie or this work.

Thomas has worked in media, government, and economic development in Erie. Before heading up the Nerve Center, she served as the director of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's northwest region office, which includes Erie and 12 other counties, for over seven years.

Katz first arrived in Erie to present at the Jefferson Educational Society's Global Summit in 2014, discussing his widely praised book *"The Metropolitan Revolution,"* which showcased cities and their successes and the people there driving progress. Katz has remained engaged with Erie over the years, consulting on various projects and ideas, and appearing at additional Global Summits.

For years, a Katzian mantra had been: The federal government is not coming to save you. Or, in other words, towns and cities control their own destinies, and progress happens — or does not —

at the local level.

But then, COVID-19.

At the onset of the global pandemic, Katz asked me to help write an early response to the U.S. federal government's early actions — or inactions — in the wake of a once-in-a-century global crisis. First and foremost, COVID-19 was a global public health crisis. But it was also crippling businesses and creating an economic crisis. In late March 2020, we made the case for why we believed *Erie's* downtown was "a Proxy for the Nation," arguing that a renaissance a decade in the making ran the risk of being stunted, or, worse, undone, without purposeful immediate government intervention at the federal level — and that many other towns and cities now faced similar situations to *Erie's*.

The pandemic has, indeed, prompted an unprecedented flow of federal dollars. Beginning during the Trump administration and continuing into the Biden White House, the federal government is deploying trillions of dollars to communities nationwide.

Katz commonly likens the dispersing of funds to a fire hose.

But you don't flood your whole house if only the kitchen and dining room are on fire. This new playbook positions *Erie* to turn talk — ideas, dreams, wishes, plans — more quickly to action, and action to revitalizing results — a renaissance restored, a better *Erie* for all by directing the stream of dollars at specific projects.

*Erie*, like many places, has an archive of plans. Some drill down at the municipal level. Others are scaled to countywide and regional levels. Some are just a few years old. Others drafted decades ago still have relevance today.

Unlike other cities and towns, *Erie* now has a playbook. The list of those that do is short.

The New Localism Associates and the Nowak Metro Finance Lab at Drexel University, so far, have created investment playbook toolkits for the downtown of Dayton, Ohio; a health innovation corridor in El Paso; and disadvantaged commercial corridors in Buffalo, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, and Greensboro, N.C. Next up: the downtown of San Bernardino in the Inland Empire region in Southern California.



Bruce Katz (top) and Kim Thomas (bottom) are spearheading *"Erie's Inclusive Growth: A Playbook for Action,"* which aims to accelerate *Erie's* pandemic-disrupted renaissance by directing federal funding to the right projects.

"What we have in *Erie* is a portfolio of real projects," Katz told me. "It is tangible projects that are costed out that can raise capital from federal programs, from the state, and from banks, from CDFIs (Community Development Financial Institutions), and from investors."

Those projects came from studying and reviewing 12 of *Erie's* past and current plans, and from interviewing some 50 community stakeholders. What's emerged is *Erie's* playbook, which serves as a "living document."

Think of this as a restaurant with a menu. Thanks to the internet and social media, most restaurants have the ability to advertise their menus to prospective diners before they decide whether to sit down. The menu lists what is served — and by extension, what is not. Diners might be able to modify some dishes — Hold the tomatoes! Add some relish! — while others might come out as-is (you can't take the chocolate out of chocolate

ice cream).

With the menu comes the ability to say more than just "we serve food." *Erie*, through its playbook, expresses: Here is where we will invest money, how much it will cost, why it matters, and how it stands to improve our community.

To unpack and review the entire menu/playbook is an important thing to do, but not something we will do in-depth here. The living document lives on the Nonprofit Partnership's website, and should be something anyone who cares about *Erie's* present circumstances and wants a say in its future should review.

Briefly reviewing *Erie's* menu — err, its playbook — you will find 35 projects that build on identified strengths to address identified weaknesses, focusing on specific types of investments at a total cost of \$1.1 billion. They are both cross-cutting and place-based.

Cross-cutting projects focus on county and regional investment strategies.

## Home improvements within reach; grant applications due for Renaissance funds

BY KATHLEEN SPINAZZOLA  
kathleen@thecorryjournal.com

Homes on some Corry streets are primed to see improvements as applications from property owners flow in to Impact Corry for Renaissance Block grant money.

Renaissance Block funds were first made available to the city of Corry in 2019 by the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. Since that time, multiple property owners in the city have taken advantage of the grant money and made repairs and improvements to their home.

The goal is simple: To make Corry more attractive.

"We're doing this to add to the curb appeal of Corry homes, add to their value and make the city a more attractive place to live," Community Development Manager Jordan Schrecengost said. "It creates a ripple effect. Studies have shown that when improvements are made in

smaller clusters, it creates the impetus for others to do the same."

As home after home and street after street improve in appearance, greater pride can be taken in the community while it becomes a more desirable place to live, helping to increase the tax base and adding value to homes and property.

The applications are due in the Impact Corry office by 4 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30. Schrecengost is making himself available to applicants for them to get their paperwork turned in by any means necessary.

He can be reached by cell phone, 814-462-5061; by email, manager@impactcorry.com; or by mail, 2 S. Center St.

If any homeowner trying to get an application in runs into trouble, Schrecengost said to call him, and he will pick up one's paperwork if necessary.

◀ See Funds, P.3

### Funds

from front page.

The Renaissance Block program previously designated four different swaths of the city to be eligible for the funds. Over the last three years, more rounds of money have been sought and received by Impact Corry, as its mission is to keep it going, keep the improvements coming and let the program continue to re-load every year and help out property owners.

This latest round of funds will be able to help at least 34 homeowners in the "Schoolhouse Block," which spans Route 6 down to East Smith Street, from Wright Street to North Center Street.

A meeting on Aug. 2 held at the Corry VFW with Impact Corry saw over 110 potential applicants come and get more information to be-

gin the application process.

Schrecengost believes that after several rounds of Renaissance grant funding has gone out, more people realize the money is real.

"People are seeing how many others have benefited from the grant, and they see it's not a scam," he said.

So much so, that those who've already received grant money are even applying again. New applicants will take priority, Schrecengost said, but a waiting list will be created, as the funding continues to re-launch when Impact Corry is able to obtain it.

The grant money works on a reimbursement basis. Property owners pay for their home's repairs up front, and are then reimbursed 50% of the total cost by Impact Corry, up to \$5,000.

Applicants need to provide cost and timeframe esti-

mates with their paperwork, and with this round, in the past, the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development — a major funding source — requires property owners to get bids from contractors for the home improvements.

This can present a challenge for some, so Impact Corry stepped in and made it acceptable for applicants to at least get one bid, if they document their attempts at getting two others.

Additional funds for this round of grant money has come from local sources: Corry Community Foundation, Corry Custom Machine Inc., Al Xander Co., Dynasty Construction and Bracken Funeral Home.

At the end of the process, once repairs are completed and paid for, Schrecengost will verify and interview property owners, after which, he cuts them a check.