



For Immediate Release
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The Greater Honesdale Partnership's Design Committee is pleased to announce the hiring of Derck & Edson, consultant firm to complete a Downtown Honesdale Revitalization Plan. This plan is funded by a Local Share Account - Monroe County Grant. This plan will not only revitalize Honesdale's appearance but also its economic vitality.

On February 12, 2020, GHP requested all Consultants to have their proposals submitted by March 11. GHP received seven outstanding bids and out of that seven interviewed five companies.

Design Committee comprised of Brian Wilken, Jared Newbon, Judith Poltanis, James Jennings, Jeff Hiller, Holly Przasnyski, Patti Bursis, Mary Beth Wood and Lisa Burns completed a rigorous and fair interviewing process.

"The GHP has a good approach to the Downtown Revitalization project in that action will be dependent on a solid understanding of current and future economic opportunity. The proposed plan is about more than just beautifying an area, it's about providing a strong foundation for future economic prosperity". Mary Beth Wood, WEDCO, Executive Director

The team is well-rounded with business owners, members of the Honesdale Borough, economic developers, financial advisors, and GHP Board Members. Having a widely experienced group at the table provided different points of view and perspective throughout the interviewing process. Each company was scored on the same questions and criteria. Judith Poltanis, Borough Secretary and committee member states, " I am excited to have been asked to participate in this new GHP endeavor and look forward to working with both the GHP and the community in this study and to recommend achievable goals both for Honesdale Borough and its residents."

In the end, the company that rose to the top is Derck & Edson. They are a 35-person firm with extensive experience in the planning and revitalization of downtowns. Their planners, architects, landscape architects and civil engineers are committed to transformative visions and reality-based plans to help the community realize its goals. Leading their team is Mark Evans, a planner,

and architect with over 30 years of experience planning and revitalizing downtowns and walkable communities.

Derck & Edson's team will be supported by ECON partners. President of ECON partners, Coleen Terry has spent over 18 years designing and implementing highly successful strategies for complex development projects. Her career has been focused on removing barriers to community development and redevelopment, with a strong concentration in the repurposing of underutilized sites and brownfields.

“The Derck & Edson team is honored to be selected for the Downtown Honesdale Revitalization Plan! We are looking forward to working with the Greater Honesdale Partnership, community members, businesses and municipal leaders to bring fresh ideas for streetscape improvements, revitalization initiatives and funding strategies to enhance downtown Honesdale.” Mark Evans, Director of Planning

If you would like to be a volunteers with our Design Committee please contact Lisa Burns, Executive Director at ghp@visithonesdalepa.com . GHP's new slogan “Destination Forward” is apt for 2020 as we are excited to move into this new phase. The consulting firm begins its initial meetings in April 2020.