

## 2017 RDC Annual Report

Jan 11, 2018

### Appointees and Attendance

RDC appointees for the year 2017 were David Redding, Jim Schultz, Tim Clark, Tina Bedey and Keith Baker. Judy Hardwick was the school board appointee. Keith Baker resigned from the board on June 5<sup>th</sup> and Jim Kemp was appointed in June by the County Council to replace Keith. David Redding was elected President, Jim Schultz Vice President, and Tina Bedey Secretary.

Attendance at regular meetings:

David Redding 12 out of 12  
Jim Schultz 11 out of 12  
Tim Clark 12 out of 12  
Tina Bedey 12 out of 12  
Keith Baker 3 out of 5 month term  
Jim Kemp 6 out of 6 month term

### Attendance – Supporting (Non-Voting) Members

Brandon Harris 6 out of 6

### 2017 Budget - Expenditures

Website Administration and Maintenance	\$1,200.00
Income Survey	6,550.00
Legal Fees – Helmsburg EDA	3,619.02
Eleven-Fifty Coding Academy – Training	7,900.00
Total	18,069.02

### Guest Speakers –

- Gary Pohl, Butler Fairman and Seufert Incorporated Engineers (Master Planning, *GIS Mapping*)
- Barth Hendrickson, Browning Day Mullins, Deardorf.
- Keith Bryant, Robert Stein, Consulting (*Wastewater*)
- John Dockery, RevitalNation (*Economic Development, Master Planning*)
- Alison Faulkner, The Wilds (*Wedding Venue*)
- Charlie Day, Casey Erwin, Christopher Franz, DLZ (*Wastewater*)

- [Cool Coding Week](#). Eleven Fifty Academy is a nonprofit coding academy that teaches all ages and skill sets how to code through hands-on, immersive experiences. For a full week in September 25 – Oct 1, , Eleven Fifty Academy staff and trained BCS employees in delivering these educational experiences to students across the district at all grade levels. The public was invited to attend a day and a half of training on Sept 30-Oct 1.
- **Communications and Transparency** – [RDC In the News \(enclosure 1\)](#)
- **County Income Survey**. Completion of a first-ever, county-wide income survey in order to be eligible for federal block grants. 53% of residents classified as low to moderate income (51% required for eligibility)
- **Block Grants**
  - *Ongoing*. Applied for an economic development strategic planning grant; and if application accepted, goal is to complete the plan by September 2018
  - *Ongoing*. Collaborate with the APC in developing a residential housing policy and master plan.
  - *TBD*: Apply for a grant to complete Phase II of the Helmsburg Storm Water Project
  - *TBD*: Apply for \$50K grant to update the [county comprehensive plan](#).
  -
- [Helmsburg Revitalization](#)
  - Completion of the Helmsburg Economic Development Area (EDA) and Economic Plan.
    - RDC now has the authority to buy and sell properties within the EDA.
    - RDC has identified additional tools that will support development
    - Funding: clean-up, signage, establishment of a 501c3 community development association.
- **HCI**. [Application](#) and [presentation](#) that resulted in our selection for the Hometown Collaborative Initiative (HCI) Grant;
  - The HCI team formally launched meetings with assigned OCRA coaches in mid 2017. The team is following the OCRA methodology to build upon existing assets through Collaboration, Learning, Assessing, Implementing and Sustaining. The Team is currently in the Foundation Phase I and has completed a review of various sources of information previously collected regarding county needs, visions and statistics. The team is currently launching a county wide survey to gain community input. The input will be shared at a community Forum and combined with historical information to define the priorities for the final project.
  - Websites:
    - [Brown County HCI](#)
    - Purdue Center for Regional Development - [HCI Communities](#)
  -

- **Economic Analysis Study.** Sponsorship of the [IU/SPEA – Economic Analysis of the County.](#)
  - **RDC Website [ChooseBrownCounty.com](#) – Maintenance and Updates.** Uploaded various studies, guides, reports, stories, and Helmsburg commercial properties listings. ([RDC Document Resources](#))
- [Community Vitality Indicators \(CVIs\).](#) Reinforced and sustained. CVIs include: Assessed Value, Per Capita Income, Population, School Enrollment, Educational Attainment.
- **Collaboration with other organizations:**
  - Regional Sewer Board – Flex Strategy and Economic Analysis – Dave.
  - BC Schools to include participation in the development of the Schools Strategic Plan, support for STEM, and Regional Opportunity Initiative (ROI) Ready Schools Grant (Dave, Tina and Tim.)
  - Southwest Central Regional Opportunity Initiative (ROI) – General Support - Tim
  - Master Gardeners – Van Buren School Garden Prototype - Brandon Harris
  - Jim Schultz – Peaceful Valley, Town RDC, Econ Strategy Steering Committee,
  - LoWVs – Fiscal Management and Strategic Planning (Tim, Jim Kemp, Tina).
  - Brown County Community Foundation – Jim Schultz.
- [Checklist for Assessing Economic Development Projects \(Enclosure 2\).](#)

## 2018 Priorities

- **Sustaining and improving upon the 2017 initiatives:**
  - Block Grants – Economic and Helmsburg Storm Water Phase II
  - HCI – Complete first project; start on next ones
  - Communication and Collaboration – Committees and Boards, Professional and Community Group, ROI, Helmsburg Revitalization
  - Community Vitality Indicators (CVI) – Update 2017 data
  - Website Maintenance and updates – Add Social Media related interfaces?
- The [Brown County Schools 2017/2018 budget recommendations](#) identified that an **economic and residential housing policy** is critical in slowing the downward trend in school enrollments. Declining enrollments can lead to further budget cuts, consolidation of schools and cuts in programs.
- Involving the community in an economic development strategy.
- Development of a residential housing policy and plan.
- NEW/PROPOSED: Collaborating to develop a rolling Annual State of the County Assessment and Report.

## Enclosure 1

### In The News

#### [Brown County requests economic development plan for OKRA](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../brown-county-requests-economic-development-plan-for-okra/)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/.../brown-county-requests-economic-development-plan-for-okra/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../brown-county-requests-economic-development-plan-for-okra/)

Oct 31, 2017 - Below is an outline of elements that should be included in the final **plan**. Prior studies have been completed and will need to be reviewed.

#### [County gives Helmsburg new tools for redevelopment - Brown County ...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/.../county_gives_helmsburg_new_tools_for_redevelopment...)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/.../county\\_gives\\_helmsburg\\_new\\_tools\\_for\\_redevelopment...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/.../county_gives_helmsburg_new_tools_for_redevelopment...)

Oct 24, 2017 - Jim **Kemp**, a member of the **Brown County** Redevelopment Commission, reported on progress at the Oct. 12 **RDC** meeting. He and other **RDC** ...

#### [Event will help students, adults learn to write computer code](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../event_will_help_students_adults_learn_to_write_computer_code)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/.../event\\_will\\_help\\_students\\_adults\\_learn\\_to\\_write\\_computer\\_co...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../event_will_help_students_adults_learn_to_write_computer_co...)

Sep 19, 2017 - **Brown County** students and adults will get the opportunity to learn how to speak computer at the end of this month. Cool **Coding** Week, a series ...

#### [Rezoning vote; improvement ideas; planning grant - Brown County ...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/09/22/government_briefs-22/)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/09/22/government\\_briefs-22/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/09/22/government_briefs-22/)

Sep 19, 2017 - **Brown County** **RDC** President Dave Redding said his board is ... and other equipment to help cut and haul brush, **RDC** member Jim **Kemp** said.

#### [Residents plotting new vision for Helmsburg - Brown County Democrat](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../residents_plotting_new_path_forward_for_helmsburg_commu...)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/.../residents\\_plotting\\_new\\_path\\_forward\\_for\\_helmsburg\\_commu...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../residents_plotting_new_path_forward_for_helmsburg_commu...)

Aug 22, 2017 - **Kemp** said residents are looking at about six in particular that they'd like to see condemned and cleaned up. He said the **RDC** could look at ...

#### [COUNTY NEWS: Economic development area OK'd; redevelopment ...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../county-news-economic-development-area-okd-redevelopment...)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/.../county-news-economic-development-area-okd-redevelopment...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../county-news-economic-development-area-okd-redevelopment...)

The **RDC** voted unanimously June 22 to confirm an economic development area for Helmsburg. ... Jim **Kemp** will facilitate a discussion about a community vision at the next ... The Brown County Redevelopment Commission may be getting a budget ... from county government, according to **Brown County Democrat** archives.

[Plan commission, redevelopment joining forces? - Brown County ...](#)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/08/22/plan-commission-redevelopment-joining-forces/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/08/22/plan-commission-redevelopment-joining-forces/)

Aug 22, 2017 - “You own the planning, but it's critical for us, as redevelopment, to know what the plan is,” **RDC** member **Tim Clark** told the **APC** members.

[New developments prompt county planning discussion](#)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/08/30/new\\_developments\\_prompt\\_planning\\_discussion/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/08/30/new_developments_prompt_planning_discussion/)

Aug 29, 2017 - That was allowed under **Brown County's** zoning ordinance, without ... **Clark**, as an **RDC** member, has been working on a grant application so ...

[Hometown Collaboration Initiative pitch made to state - Brown County ...](#)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/04/19/hometown\\_collaboration\\_initiative\\_pitch\\_made/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/04/19/hometown_collaboration_initiative_pitch_made/)

May 4, 2017 - **RDC** member **Tim Clark** said cost efficiencies need to be developed to keep essential services, and making those changes will require a high ...

[RDC News – Brown County Redevelopment Commission](#)

[www.choosebrowncounty.com/category/rdc-news/](http://www.choosebrowncounty.com/category/rdc-news/)

By **Tim Clark** ... Progress in Helmsburg — Articles published in the **Brown County Democrat** ... UPDATE: Brown County Schools to Host Eleven Fifty Academy.

[June 6, 2017 – Brown County Democrat](#)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/06/06/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/06/06/)

Jun 6, 2017 - Within the next week or so, about 3,000 randomly chosen **Brown County** residents will receive a **survey** in the mail asking about their **income**.

[Income surveys needed for economic development grant](#)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/.../surveys\\_first\\_step\\_toward\\_developing\\_economic\\_plan\\_for\\_c...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/.../surveys_first_step_toward_developing_economic_plan_for_c...)

Jun 6, 2017 - Within the next week or so, about 3000 randomly chosen Brown County residents will receive a **survey** in the mail asking about their **income**. ... We're going to do the **(income) survey** so that we can get grants, so we ... in Brown County since 2005 and leading the **Brown County Democrat** since late 2009.

[Helmsburg Revitalization – Brown County Redevelopment Commission](#)

[www.choosebrowncounty.com/helmsburg-revitalization-in-the-news/](http://www.choosebrowncounty.com/helmsburg-revitalization-in-the-news/)

By **Tim Clark**. Posted April 27, 2017. In **RDC News**, Uncategorized ... Progress in Helmsburg — Articles published in the **Brown County Democrat**. *Aug 22, 2017*.

[Hometown Collaboration Initiative pitch made to state - Brown County ...](#)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/04/19/hometown\\_collaboration\\_initiative\\_pitch\\_made/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/04/19/hometown_collaboration_initiative_pitch_made/)

May 4, 2017 - **RDC** member Tim Clark said cost efficiencies need to be developed to ... to our wonderful**county**,” HCI supporter Jim **Kemp** wrote back to Bock.

[Leaders wanted for project to boost collaboration - Brown County ...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/03/20/leaders-wanted-for-project-to-boost-collaboration/)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/03/20/leaders-wanted-for-project-to-boost-collaboration/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2017/03/20/leaders-wanted-for-project-to-boost-collaboration/)

May 4, 2017 - The commitment could be 12 to 24 months initially, **Bedey** said. ... success, we need to engage that age group,” **RDC** member Jim Schultz said.

[What are best bets for future of local economy? - Brown County ...](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2016/12/28/best_bets_for_future_of_local_economy/)

[www.bcdemocrat.com/2016/12/28/best\\_bets\\_for\\_future\\_of\\_local\\_economy/](http://www.bcdemocrat.com/2016/12/28/best_bets_for_future_of_local_economy/)

May 4, 2017 - Indiana residents pay their **income** taxes to the **county** in which they live, and ... **The**survey and analysis were offered for free to Nashville and ...

## **OTHER**

[Brown County housing costs among highest in Indiana - Indiana ...](http://www.indianaeconomicdigest.net)

[www.indianaeconomicdigest.net](http://www.indianaeconomicdigest.net) › most recent › cutbacks & closings

1.

Nov 29, 2006 - By Jonathan Hiskes, **Brown County Democrat** Staff writer ... set aside as vacation homes, leaving little for low-**income** residents. ... a "windshield **survey**" of housing conditions and **surveys** of Realtors, bankers and the public.

## Enclosure 2

### Checklist for Assessing Economic Development Projects

Categories	✓	Remarks
<b>Do No Harm</b>		
1. Public Safety & Traffic		
2. Financial Risk to Taxpayer		
3. Unintended Consequences		
<b>Brown County Values</b>		
1. Increases ` Activity ( <i>and diversification</i> )		
2 Incremental Job Growth		
3. Sustainable Growth Contribution		
4. Advancement of BC Branding		
5. Best Use of Land/Resources		
6. CVI - Assessed Value		
7. CVI -Per Capita Income		
8. CVI - School Enrollment		
9. CVI - Population Growth		
10. CVI - Educational Attainment		
<b>Brown County RDC Values</b>		
1. Best Use of Land/Resources		
2. Reduces Taxpayer/Citizen Risk		
3. Maximizes Return Taxpayer Assets		
4. Synergy - Enables New, Incremental Investment		
5. Integrity & Transparency Process & Priority		
6. High Integration of Citizens and Area Leaders		
7. Execution Risk - Are We Capable? Capacity?		