

Copake Hamlet Revitalization Task Force

January 28, 2015 - 7:00 p.m.

Copake Town Hall

Present: Rus Davis, Peggy Lewis, Chris Quinby, Jennifer Redman, Roberta Roll, Chair
Other Attendees: Jeanne Mettler, Town Board Liaison, Katie Kocijanski from Register Star

Absent: John Pollok

Approval of Minutes – The minutes from the January 14, 2014 meeting were approved.

Christmas Trees – 25 tree dedications were sold this year for total proceeds of \$825. The trees cost \$551. Net profit was \$274. There was discussion of having an additional 5 dedications next year, which would necessitate purchasing new lights.

Broadband initiatives – It has long been acknowledged that the town of Copake needs broadband in order to attract new business. **The proposed rapid care project is dependent on increased broadband and CMH estimates** that it would cost \$25,000 to bring broadband into the Town of Copake, but this estimate is very general and needs additional research. The committee would like to look further into making broadband a reality in town. There is a new grassroots economic development group in Columbia County meeting monthly, which a member of the taskforce will try to attend to gather information on this and other topics. There are funds through the USDA which can be applied for and the committee will research this source. Members of the committee will also speak to our elected representatives and Columbia County Economic Development staff about the New New York Broadband fund and how those funds can be accessed.

Grant writing for town projects – The task force and the Town need to consider identifying a person that is able to write grants for the town. In Ancram, there is a resident that has been tapped by the town that is researching and writing grants. Jeanne Mettler will discuss with the town board.

Meeting schedule, Place Alliance – The first meeting with Place Alliance, the community planner which has been hired, will take place on Saturday February 7th.

Grange - A new member of the Grange is organizing a lunch for the farmers in the area.

Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting:

Place Alliance Meeting February 7th

Regular Meeting February 11th

Respectfully submitted,

JENNIFER REDMAN