

Copake Hamlet Revitalization Task Force Minutes - January 8, 2014

Attendance

Present: Nancy Schultz & John Pollok (both via teleconference), Roberta Roll, Chris Quinby, Jeanne Mettler

Absent: Rus Davis

Grants **JILL**

First Niagara Foundation/CCS

Nancy hasn't received any feedback from the Regional Grant Administrator, Kelly Firmbach, at 1st Niagara. Gill advises waiting until the third week of January and contacting her again, copying Gill. If necessary we will redraft the grant without feedback and Gill will let the regional manager know we have resubmitted it. **Jeanne** and **Roberta** will stop by the bank and talk to Gill further.

Nancy reviewed the prior submittal and identified areas she thought were weak:

Complete our listing on Guidestar. **Jeanne** has not contacted them yet. She is waiting for the IRS name letter confirming the name change to CCS expected by the beginning of February. **Nancy** will try to rewrite the grant in February.

First Niagara is very interested in how we will promote their name in the region, e.g. How will First Niagara be recognized publicly for funding this program/project? Who is the person responsible for the media and exposure of the project? What is our media plan? We cannot hire someone for such a small grant. **Jeanne** will do ~~a-resumeresponse~~ and draft the required information. **Nancy** will send info to Jeanne to use.

Lower requested amount (We initially asked for \$25,000; Gill suggests that we will likely end up with \$2,500).

List relationships with 1st Niagara Bank

- Can CCS move some funds to 1st Niagara? **Rus**
- Can the board members list business and personal accounts they have with them? **Rus**
- Could the new General Store open their account at First Niagara? **Roberta**

We need CCS income statement and balance sheet for 2013 an annual budget for 2014 – **Rus, Nancy** to follow up.

Nancy will try to find more income disadvantages in the census data. Also, Craig Surprise has supplied some housing data that may help show disadvantages community members.

How could we use volunteers from 1st Niagara Bank? Paint the store, help at the block party and bike events.

Berkshire Taconic Donor Advised Fund

The Green Pastures Fund was established at Berkshire Taconic Community Foundation in 1999 by an anonymous donor. The fund's mission is to preserve and encourage small, community-based agricultural ventures which might

include, but are not limited to: community-supported agriculture; local farmers’ markets; urban garden programs; agricultural scholarships; cooperative programming; internships; grantwriting; and marketing.

Due March 1 or Sept 1

The fund awards grants quarterly. Grants generally range from \$1,000 to \$3,000.

For more info go to:

<http://www.berkshiretaconic.org/bReceivebNonprofitsIndividuals/SearchApplyforGrants/GreenPasturesFund.aspx>

Nancy will use some of the logic in the General Store prospectus and information on the Copake Agricultural Center to build the business case for a Copake hamlet revitalization with an agricultural focus.

Request for Information

The Task Force approved moving forward on the hamlet plan RFI with minor changes. **Nancy** will send the revised RFI to **Roberta**. **John** will get the bidders list from Tom Carty in Hillsdale. **Roberta** will send out the RFI to the prospective bidders.

Film Series

Task	Coord By	Comments
Screen	Chris	The new screen is at Jeanne’s house. Chris will work with Bill Newcomb to get it installed.
Projector and speakers	John Chris	John will work with his son-in-law to source and appropriate projector and sound system. Chris will try to get the Grange to buy the speakers and sound system.
DVDs and License	John	
Publicity	Roberta	Roberta will ask Linda Senk, a part time Copake Lake resident, to help with publicity.

John will be back mid April. Start the series in late April.

Other

Rapid Care

Jay ~~Calahan~~**Cahalan**, CEO of Columbia Memorial Hospital will conduct a site visit of the Rescue Squad building on January 15. This is Jay’s first opportunity to visit the prospective Rapid Care site. Mary Daggett called **Roberta** about some unknown topic and Roberta has not yet been able to have a discussion with her.

Copake Agricultural Center

The project is moving forward. The land purchase of the Great Field took place in late December. The Church Street houses and Alice Belt land will close after they have raised more funds.

The Copake Front Porch Market

The project is moving ahead well. They are waiting for a couple questions to be resolved by the attorney and accountant. They need to do another fundraising push. There will be one more public meeting. Let **Roberta or Jeanne** know if you know of anyone who might be interested in participating in the venture.

Nancy will look for opportunities for Main Street Grants for the store.

Building and Planning Department Brochure

Roberta will ask Jeff to encourage Hilarie Thomas to meet with the Task Force. We should meet with Hilarie before we do the brochure. We need to get someone to design it. Bob Haight said he would help us with the brochure.

Zoning enforcement

John spoke to Jeff and Ed Ferrato about code enforcement in the hamlet, speaking as a private citizen. The Task Force should meet with Jeff to discuss this issue and the brochure.

Chatham Brewery in Copake

John will follow up with Chatham Brewery's Jake Cunningham about the feasibility of establishing a brewery in Copake. The acquisitions by the Copake Agricultural Center should make the initiative more attractive. **John** will try to put the two together. **Roberta** will talk to Bob Bernstein. State grants might work for this project too.

Block Party

Nancy will provide her list of volunteers when she returns in March. Fiona will be happy to help. **Jeanne** will solicit more volunteers in the Copake Connection.

Waste Water Disposal

Roberta will call Omega to determine how we can inform ourselves more about their type of facility.

Bike Committee

The first meeting for 2014 will be on Jan 25. They will decide about putting info on the web site, whether they should do a bike brochure and whether they will do the Roe Jan Ramble again.

Copake Business Directory

Jeanne is progressing with the business directory for the Copake web site. **Jeanne** will seek e-mail addresses of businesses she doesn't have.

Should a Roe Jan Chamber of Commerce be established? **Jeanne** will talk to Jill Simms.

Next meeting Jan 22, 2014.