

Ancram Grants & Funding Committee
Meeting Minutes - July 30, 2009

Present: Suzanne Bressler (Chair), Libby McKee (VC), Jim Miller (TC)

Absent: John MacArthur (TC), Michael Cawley, Art Bassin, Robert Murphy

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. Minutes of the June meeting were reviewed and approved.

The Chair described the need for another appropriations representative for the Town to approach elected officials for funding, as she would like to, but has to wear the same hat for her full time job, and it's not optimal to push for two entities at once. Libby McKee volunteered to take on that role for the Town. The Community Days were discussed in this context, and it was agreed that the Chair would submit her contacts to Ms. McKee so that Ms. McKee could extend invitations to elected officials to Ancram's Community Days. The Chair agreed to also follow up with Ms. Jane Shannon regarding any press efforts that were being employed for the event. All public relations efforts lead to greater recognition when applying for grants and funds, and Ancram Community Days seemed an appropriate event to call to the attention of those the Town would approach for funding.

The Chair discussed the progression of the Community Development Block Grant subcommittee's Strategic Plan for the Town, and reminded the committee that she and Art Bassin would be scheduling a meeting with the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal's Office of Community Renewal to begin applying for a large CDBG nonmatching grant. A completed Strategic Plan will be important for that process to begin.

Jim Miller gave a brief update on the Town Board's issuance of \$1,000 for the Town Hall solar grant application process (through NYSERDA). Bob Murphy is working on that project, as has been indicated in prior meetings, and has reported via email to the committee about the progress of research of and application for solar funds.

Ms. McKee updated the committee on a very recent meeting between herself, Town Board members and other Town officials, and officials from the NYS DOT regarding the 82/7 intersection in Ancram. (Libby, please fill in anything you deem appropriate here for the record - trying to keep the report to how it pertains to this committee :)

The Chair reviewed other grant possibilities that had come her way via email for the committee's information, although none applied directly to the Town's stated current priorities.

There was some discussion of disaster preparedness, but the Chair hadn't heard back yet from the contact provided by the Supervisor about what plan the Town had in place, should have in place, and should seek funding to employ.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48PM.

Submitted by Suzanne Bressler.