

Funds Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Monday, August 25, 2025, 6:30 PM

Cobleskill Extension Center, Cooperstown Education Center & Virtual Meeting

ACTION ITEMS:

1. **Call to Order** – President Deb Hall called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.
2. **Roll Call** – Members present were Deb Gansinger-Hall, Shelby MacLeish, Andrew Marietta and Tom Pullyblank. Staff present were Liz Callahan.
3. **Strategic Plan – Committee related objectives will be added to future agendas**
4. **Current Development Activities:**
 - a. **Nutrition Program**
 - Federal SNAP-Ed funding will end in September. There is discussion of the NYS OTDA using federal funding surplus held by NYS to extend SNAP-Ed beyond September 2025. Updates will be shared with Board (related committees) as more information is available.
 - Submitted a United Health Fund grant application in early August. Requested \$20,000 augment funding for the Healthy Connections programming, decision pending.
 - Awarded HRI Small Wellness Health Equity deliverable-based grant (up to \$8,888) for community-based Covid education.
 - b. **Rehabilitation of the Otsego Education Center**
 - Renew America’s Nonprofits (RAN) grant pending, award announcement has been delayed by US Department of Energy review of award recommendations.
 - NYS REDC CFA grant application submitted in July, award announcements in December.
 - Requested a \$15,000 allocation from Otsego County in the 2026 Allocation process.
 - Local foundation funding requests will be made throughout the fall (based on submission deadline). Proposals will leverage (pending/awarded) larger grants to encourage awards of matching funding required for larger grants.
 - Congressionally Directed Spending (CDS) requests submitted to Schumer, Gillibrand are not advancing due to current federal funding challenges. CCESO was encouraged by Senator Schmer’s staff to submit requests in the future.
 - c. **Appeal/Mohawk Valley Gives Campaign**
 - Generate synergy and increase impact of the Mohawk Valley Gives community giving campaign and CCESO’s traditional Annual Appeal by aligning the timing of the appeal letter with the period when the MVG community giving campaign is live. The campaign and appeal will focus on a few priority rehabilitation measures at the Cooperstown Extension Education Center.
 - Committee member suggestions included:

- Shelby suggested that different giving levels be tied to tangible results “\$25 buys a can of paint”
- Include opportunities for people to give for things other than the building rehab
- Andrew emphasized that the roll-out of MVG resources to board members should make it simple for them to ask them to help promote MVG:
- give them the best link, suggest they post it on their social media, provide them with text to copy & paste

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM. on a motion by Betsy Jensen, seconded by Carol Phelps. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27, 2025.