

Funds Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 4, 2025, 12:30 PM

Cobleskill Extension Center, Cooperstown Education Center & Virtual Meeting

ACTION ITEMS:

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1. **Call to Order** – Vice President Shelby MacLeish called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM. Deb directed members to review the agenda and asked for any new business items. No additions were requested.
2. **Roll Call** – Members present were Shelby MacLeish and Andrew Marietta. Staff members present were Nicole Thompson and Liz Callahan.
3. **2026 County Allocations**
 - a. Otsego County
 - Allocation may be reduced by approximately 25%, Andrew Marietta explained the County's financial situation and process
 - At the budget lab meeting regarding CCESO's allocation Liz requested restoration of at least \$10 to \$15K
 - There is an Otsego County Budget Public Hearing is on November 25 at 6 PM in the Otsego Co Courthouse
 - b. Schoharie County
 - At the Association's budget hearing there was a motion to keep CCESO's 2026 Schoharie Co allocation level (\$290K).
4. **Development Activities**
 - a. Grant Funding
 - SNAP Ed is currently funded thru 1/31/26, and once PY2025 financials are settled it is expected that the program will be funded thru 9/30/26 with surplus funding held by NYS OTDA.
 - HRI Small Wellness grant implementation is underway, approximately \$7,000 in funding based on deliverables.
 - b. Pending Funding
 - Community Foundation of Otsego County grant submitted to support 2026 Seed-To-Supper + Grow A Row Expansion (+ nutrition education)
 - Also submitted applications to support this to 2 small Ots Co foundations
 - Rehab of the Otsego Education Center
 - Renew America's Nonprofits (RAN) grant application is under review by the US Department of Energy
 - NYS CFA grant application will be submitted
 - Requested CFA matching funding from 2 Ots Co foundations
 - Submitting additional requests to 2 more foundations in November
 - c. Appeal (\$2,300) + Mohawk Valley Gives (\$1,400) Campaigns raised approximately \$3,700

d. Online Auction Planning

- The Association has a Yeti cooler worth approximately \$400. Andrew suggested that Board members seek donations of other “outdoor” and spring/garden items; plenty of time to gather donations before Spring. The ideal timeframe may be April (before summer starts)
- Use an online action platform (like 32auctions.com), run it for 2 weeks
- Can bring credit card processing in house
- Gives plenty of time to promote (Connections, social media, seed swap)
- Auction relates to Strategic Plan objectives, refresh committee is another step

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM