

Funds Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Friday, May 22, 2026, 11:00 AM

Zoom Virtual Meeting

ACTION ITEMS:

- The Committee is proposing that the Board agree to formally include an online fundraising auction in the mix of CCESO's annual fundraising efforts.
- The Committee is proposing that CCESO host familiarization events for elected officials at each county fair. In Otsego County CCESO will offer a casual meal in Martin Hall for elected officials and dignitaries before Fireman's Parade. The time, date and format of a familiarization event at the Schoharie County Fair is TBD.

1. **Call to Order** – Liz Callahan called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM.
2. **Present** – Members present were Jim Hayes, Nicole Blanchard, Jim Hayes, Shelby MacLeish and Andrew Marietta. Staff present was Liz Callahan.
3. **Funds Development Activities:**
 - a. Liz shared updates on current grant funding:
 - SNAP Ed is funded thru 9/30/26, the program will be shut down then.
 - The Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Programs (EFNEP) could be cut by 30% in the 2027 program year. Liz is meeting with NYS EFNEP staff to get a better understanding about how funding for local programs will be decided if there are cuts.
 - CCESO's current Farm-To-School grant will be spent-down by January 2027. CCESO submitted a grant application for the next round of NYS FTS funding, which would extend the program through September 2028.
 - b. Funding for the rehabilitation of the Otsego Education Center
 - Status of Congressionally Directed Spending requests: Reily's office is not advancing the request. Have not had any feedback from Schumer, Gillibrand.
 - Renew America's Nonprofits request for energy efficiency improvements was reviewed by Sustainable Westchester and is stalled at the US Dept of Energy.
 - The NYS Consolidated Funding Application opportunities and deadlines have not been announced yet (possibly due to late NYS budget?) Liz will submit a CFA when the 2026 round opens and seek matching funds from foundations.
 - c. Online Auction
 - Approximately \$4,100 in proceeds from the online auction will be divided among the programs. Andrew suggested that the Committee encourage the board to formally commit to including an annual online auction among our fundraising efforts. Board members will be encouraged to plan ahead, and to start collecting auction items.
 - d. Appeal/MV Gives
 - Liz recapped plans for CCESO's late summer/early fall fundraising appeal, aligned with the Mohawk Valley Gives Campaigns.
 - e. The Committee agreed to ask the Board to commit to events that promote familiarization with and advocacy for CCESO to elected officials at each county fair (in preparation for county allocation

requests). Board members are encouraged to participate in a proposed familiarization meal at the Otsego County Fair on Aug 5 from 5 – 7 pm. The time, date and format of a familiarization event at the Schoharie County Fair is TBD.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.