

Bethel Local Development Corporation

Town of Bethel, PO Box 300, White Lake, NY 12786
845-583-4350 ext. 12, 845-583-4710 Fax

2008 Projects Update

| Parks and Recreation | |
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| Playground | NYS Parks and Recreation grant received for \$37,500 with an equal match requirement. Youth Park playground planned, selected, bid, purchased and installed prior to 2008 summer season. No cost to the town. Under budget. Ahead of schedule. Increased summer youth program enrollment by 60%. |
| Dr. Duggan Park | BLDC sponsored Bethel First project to improve and beautify Dr. Duggan Park at Gayle Road and 17B in Mongaup Valley. Sullivan Renaissance Category B project. Received \$2,000 grant and Bethel First won third place prize of \$5,000. |
| Minnie Falls | BLDC sponsored Smallwood Civic Association to clean-up Minnie Falls and to repair Smallwood Mausoleum. Category A Sullivan Renaissance project. Received \$1,250 grant. |
| Town of Bethel Veterans Park | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. We installed new curbing to complete the Bethel First Sullivan Renaissance project.2. Bollard lighting in the Park has been installed and lighting improved with new lamps. |
| DOT Grant Application | In February 2008 the BLDC Board of Directors passed a resolution to apply for the Department of Transportation grant to provide lake access and sidewalks. Application was submitted for \$1.5 million and decision is still pending (not a strong possibility). |
| Parks & Rec Grant Application | In February 2008 the BLDC Board of Directors passed a resolution to apply for the NYS Parks and Recreation land acquisition grant to provide access to Kauneonga Lake for personal use and development of an adjacent park. Application was submitted for \$600,000. Decision is still pending. |
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| Library | |
| Literacy Center | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Library services for Bethel appeared to be met through the Ethel Crawford Library in Monticello. 2. The Literacy Volunteers of Sullivan County (LVSC) has partnered with the BLDC to create a western annex for their services to be housed in the Youth Building behind the Justice Court. 3. Design and construction plans for remodeling of the Youth Building have been developed to accommodate both a Literacy Center and an indoor facility for Youth Programs. Garage will be renovated to make an addition to the building. There will be a central entrance and building and bathrooms will all be handicapped accessible. NYSERDA energy saving recommendations will be incorporated into the construction plan. Site plan is available for viewing. 4. Literacy Center will provide books for sale at nominal prices, computers for learning languages and computer skills, and reading tutoring. Center will be open three days per week to begin and Friday and Saturday evenings. 5. Fundraiser scheduled for February 15, 2009 at Friends' Restaurant. |
| Golden Feather Award - \$50,000 | |
| | The two-year paperwork process is ahead of schedule. Monies will be distributed as follows: \$26,000 to Playground, \$12,000 to streetlights, \$12,000 to curbing around Town of Bethel Veterans Park. Total Golden Feather is \$50,000. |
| Preservation of Ag Space | |
| Grant | We were awarded a grant for \$25,000 to conduct a study of our current agricultural activity and to develop a plan for preservation of those areas. Committee of four towns with the same grant, Sullivan County Planning and consultants have been meeting to plan the project and survey the farmers. |
| Broadband Coverage | |
| | Increased coverage through Verizon. Broadband coverage is available through Verizon to all Bethel residents. See Rita Sheehan for details. |
| Milfoil Eradication | |
| Meetings & Research | Three meetings have been held with White Lake/Kauneonga Lake lot owners. Research has been done with DEC to identify the presence of milfoil. Research has also been done to determine possible solutions and treatments. We will be |

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| | contacting other municipalities who have addresses the problem to benefits from their lessons learned. |
| Grant Funding | Grant funding assistance has not been available and we do not know when it will be. In the meantime we have to determine the solution we wish to put in place. |
| Kauneonga Lake Main Street Program Phase I – Businesses (\$175,000) | |
| Kauneonga Cove | 3 storefronts. 1 available. Both façade and interior renovations. |
| Newman's | 2 storefronts available. Both façade and interior renovations. |
| Granny Annie | 2 storefronts available. Both façade and interior renovations. |
| Kauneonga Queen | 2 storefronts available plus 1 additional business area available. Facade and interior renovations. |
| Grant Summary | \$175,000 provided by NYS Main Street Program in addition to \$764,000 spent by business owners for a total investment in our Main Street of \$964,000. As of November 30, 2008 the NYSMS Grant is completed and reimbursement is in process! |
| Main Street Program Phase I – Streetscape (\$25,000) | |
| Streetlights and Installation | 4 streetlights to be installed from Lake Street to Boat Club. 2 matching building lights to be installed on Kauneonga Lake Fire House and Kauneonga Cove building. |
| Trash Receptacles | 5 receptacles that accommodate trash, recycling, and smoking refuse. Covers protect from weather and animals. New Town Seal on two sides. |
| Benches | 4 wrought iron benches with "BETHEL" across the back. To be placed at Literacy Center, Community Park, Town of Bethel Veterans Park and Post Office. |
| Picnic Tables | 2 picnic tables to be placed in empty lake lot next to Benji & Jake's for enjoyment of our lake. |
| Main Street Sign | New sign was purchased and installed at the entrance to Municipal Parking next to Justice Court identifying the Main Street Business Area Parking. |
| Kauneonga Lake Main Street Grant Phase II | |
| Application | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> In Spring 2008 the BLDC Board passed a resolution to apply for a second NYS Main Street Grant. We did apply and <u>we were awarded \$200,000</u> for additional improvements to our Main Street area. Again the monies will be divided with \$175,000 to match business owners' investments and \$25,000 to provide streetscape improvements. A meeting for other Main Street business owners will be conducted in January 2009 to explain the program and make applications available. |
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| EXTRAS | |
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| NYSERDA Audits | We conducted audits through NYS Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) of all five Town owned buildings. The recommendations for the Youth Building will be incorporated in the renovation. The recommendations for the Highway Barn will be addressed next year. Specs for implementation of the recommendations for the other three buildings have been issued for bid. |
| Farm to Table Event | The BLDC partnered with Pure Catskills and the Bethel Business Association to support their 'Farm to Table' event held in May 2008. The event brought together local farmers and local business owners from Bethel and neighboring towns to foster a network whereby local business and get fresh foods locally. Presentations were made by local business owners and farmers sharing their successes in this 'Farm to Table' concept. |
| CEAP | <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Citizens Energy Assistance Program. Initiated through a citizens' grass roots effort, the BLDC is conducting an energy assistance program to Bethel residents who are in an emergency situation this winter. The program is funded solely by tax deductible donations from businesses or individuals.2. Applications will be available at the Bethel Town Hall starting next week. Bethel residents only who have been denied by HEAP, Sullivan County's program. |