

Bethel Local Development Corporation

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

2013 BLDC Year-End Report

Operating Projects and Activities

Farm Market Operations

- The 2013 Kauneonga Lake Farmer's Market was operated by Danielle Gaebler and Greg Swartz under the auspices of the Sullivan County Area Farmers Markets (SCAFM) as approved by the BLDC at its meeting on March 21, 2013. No formal report of their activities has been provided.

Smallwood Property Acquisition

- The Smallwood Golf Course property totaling 196 acres was purchased by the BLDC from Sullivan County in 2011 using funds borrowed from the Town of Bethel
- At its meeting on March 21, 2013 the BLDC authorized the Chairman to finalize a Conservation easement with the Delaware Highlands Conservancy to permanently protecting the portion intended for use as a public park. The board also authorized the Chairman to pursue prospective purchase offer from a private party for the remainder of the property. The offer was subsequently withdrawn.
- As part of the Conservation Easement project the BLDC is entitled to grant funds of \$25,000 from Common Waters. Those funds had not been received as of the end of the 2013 fiscal year.
- The Town has agreed to extract road sand from the remaining 60.36 acres and to negotiate annual payments to the BLDC for the extraction of this sand. A mining permit is being obtained by the BLDC to authorize this agreement.

Grant Activity

2005 NYS Main Street Grant – KLMS I

- 2013 Annual Inspections were conducted and documented for each of five projects under this grant. These inspections will continue through December 2014. The Streetscape portion of the grant was also inspected in 2013. Because the Streetscape was not completed until 2010, inspections will continue through December 2017.

2008 NYS Main Street Grant – KLMS II

- In 2012 the final disbursements were made under this grant utilizing the full amount of grant funds - \$175,000 for renovations and \$25,000 for streetscape.
- 2013 Annual Inspections were conducted for all six projects under this grant. These inspections will continue through December 2019.

2013 Bethel Corridor Beautification Grant

- This new grant program, funded by a Sullivan Renaissance \$5,000 Community Enhancement grant, was offered to business owners along the Route 17B corridor in the Town of Bethel. Eleven applications were received. A few of these were subsequently withdrawn by the applicant. Five projects were completed. The total grant funds disbursed was \$4,600, leaving a small amount to seed a new grant program in 2014.
- A separate Sullivan Renaissance Technical Assistance grant reimbursed the BLDC \$1,000 to offset a portion of the administrative cost of the grant program. In return the BLDC provided documentation designed to assist other communities in the execution of similar targeted grant programs.

Administrative Activity

Pubic Authorities Reporting Information System (PARIS)

Under the Public Authorities Law (PAL) passed in 2005, the BLDC became subject to specific and detailed reporting requirements in 2010. These include an Annual Report (with several sub-reports) due each March and an Annual 5-year Budget Report due each October. These reports are submitted to the NYS Authorities Budget Office (ABO)

- The 2012 PARIS Annual Report was prepared and submitted on April 29, 2013.
- The 2014 PARIS Budget Report was prepared and submitted on October 24, 2013.

Resignation

- Dr. Roth resigned from the BLDC Board in June 2013.
- This vacancy was filled by Chris Cunningham by appointment at the BLDC meeting on November 26, 2013.

This Annual Report was approved at the BLDC Board meeting on January 23, 2014.