

Copake Comprehensive Planning Committee

Report to the Public- April 2010

In our last report we advised you that we were exploring the availability of grants for the Town of Copake. We can now report that on April 8, 2010 the Town Board passed a unanimous resolution supporting our grant application to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets. The grant is being submitted to the State this week and if we are successful, the State will award the Town \$25,000 to assist in creating a Farmland Protection Plan.

Meanwhile on Thursday, April 22, 2010, our committee will ask the Town Board to support us in our application to the Hudson River Valley Greenway. We are also making an application to the Rheinstrom Hill Community Foundation. We are grateful to our member Charles Dodson for his efforts in this regard.

We have had two important meetings in the past month. First, on March 18, 2010 we met with the Economic Advisory Board, and the Round the Clock Committee. These committees presented us with a report entitled "Vision for Economic Development" which we will be relying upon as we continue our work. It is an assessment of the various hamlets and includes projections and recommendations for the future. We are grateful to these Committees for the hard work and their insights, and will remain in close contact with them as we move forward.

We also met with our consultant Margaret Irwin on April 13. We have adopted a timetable for the completion of our work. We are hoping to host an Action Planning Workshop by early summer. The entire town will be invited. We plan to have a Draft Plan done by October. We will be scheduling a Public Hearing by November or December, and if all goes as planned, we will have a Final Plan ready to be offered to the Town Board by early 2011.

We continue to welcome your comments and input. We will give you plenty of notice of our next town wide meeting, to be held in June or July. In the meantime, our next meeting is Thursday, April 29, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Thereafter we return to our regular schedule of the second Tuesday and third Thursday of every month. All of our meetings are open.