

This month marks the second anniversary of the formation of the Copake Comprehensive Planning Committee. We just had our 47th meeting on March 9, 2010.

As you know from our previous communications, our task is to come up with a long range plan for Copake. At our next meeting, on Thursday, March 18, 2010 we will be meeting with the Round the Clock Committee, and the Economic Advisory Board. Many of you are familiar with the exciting work being done by "Round the Clock" to address the immediate and urgent needs of the hamlet of Copake. We will be hearing more about their strategies, and will be discussing the ways in which their work and ours can intersect. The meeting, which will begin at 7:00 p.m., is open to the public.

Now that our focus groups are completed, we are working on the actual draft of the Plan. During February and at our first March meeting we spent many hours reviewing a Community Profile which had been drafted by our consultant. This document describes the town as it exists today, and will become part of the ultimate Plan. Meanwhile a subcommittee made up of Dr. George Beneke, William Kiernan, and Jeanne Mettler has been working with our consultant on Strategies for Protection of Farmland.

We are also exploring the availability of grants to assist Copake. We are close to submitting an Application to the NY Department of Agriculture and Markets for a grant to assist Copake in protection of agriculture. We have also formed subcommittee to look at other grants. That subcommittee is chaired by Charles Dodson.

Jeanne E. Mettler, Chair
William F. Kiernan, Jr.
Dr. George Beneke
Charles Dodson
Harvey Weber

Rus Davis
Marcia Becker
Frank Peteroy
Roberta Roll
Dan Haas