

Meeting Minutes
Berkeley Heights Grants Committee
March 8, 2022

Called to order at 7:30 p.m. online through Zoom

Attending:

Doug Birbrower, Kelly Boyette, Paul Donnelly, Yelena (Helen) Lyudmilova,
Susan Poage

Doug chaired the meeting.

Actions:

- Scheduled next meeting for April 7 at 7:30 p.m. by Zoom

Discussion:

- Old business carried over from last year (Doug)

Doug did a survey of minutes and agendas from last year to address any open business. There was a discussion of the possible future use of a non-profit and how to approach matching fund grants.

- Electric garbage truck grant submitted March 4 (Doug)

This grant is to provide 100% of the cost of an electric garbage truck, which includes a charging station. A diesel garbage truck will be required to be decommissioned. Funded vehicles will be required to install a datalogger and record telematics data for a period of up to three years. Telematic devices will be provided as part of the grant. The funds will come from the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), which estimates they will fund 12-16 projects with priority given to environmentally burdened communities. This is a recurring grant, depending on funding under the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). Value of grant: \$590,000.

- EV charging station grant (“It Pay\$ To Plug In”) due May 13 (Helen, Doug)

This grant, which opens on March 14, is the second round of a grant program to build a network of charging stations throughout the State. We will need Liza’s advice on getting three quotes from vendors. We should also get a copy of the first round grant from Liza.

- Whole Kids Foundation grant due March 11 (Kelly)

This is a grant for our Community Garden. Our proposal will focus on the use of the garden by special needs kids. We need a working EIN to get into the grant website. Value of grant: \$3,000.

- America Walks Community Change grant (not assigned)

- Veteran’s grant/award (Kelly, Susan)

Kelly met with the VFW to see if we could achieve enough “points” to be certified for this annual award. Grant funds could be used to repave the VFW parking lot.

- Lord Littell (Susan)

We received three grants for Lord Littell in the past but those required matching funds which are not in this year’s budget. Can we raise matching funds in some other way?

- Playground grant (Susan)

This is an idea from last year. Will try to follow up with the person who first found the grant. Can we use the Rutgers Inclusive Healthy Communities Grant Program?

- Living Communities grant (Helen)

Liza found this on the Millennium Portal. Will research further.

- Trailblazers and AARP Community Challenge grants (Susan)

Will follow up with John Leo to see if there is anything new with respect to trail grants.

- Rescue Squad grant (Susan)

The Rescue Squad has a need for radios and a generator. Will research further.

- T-Mobile grant (unassigned)

This is an open-ended grant carried over from last year to fund a gazebo in either Peppetown or Memorial Park. Will research further.

- Spreadsheet updates (Helen)

Helen created a new Grants spreadsheet. She will add to the spreadsheet relevant resources like local organizations and their affiliated non-profit entities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.