

## Lessons Learned from Former Grant Recipients

- 1) **Do your due diligence regarding permitting, zoning, etc. before submitting the grant application. Get permits before starting the work. Make sure that you have checked laws before making any changes to the building or the property.**
- 2) If you are the project manager do a good job of delegating the individual tasks. Make sure you have a good record keeper.
- 3) Look to the time of year that your members will be able to participate and schedule around that as much as possible.
- 4) Make sure that the steps are spread out enough to allow for the completion of one step before the next is scheduled.
- 5) Recognize that your hall may be used for rentals and that you may have to schedule around them. Perhaps ask the renters (if they take a day each weekend) to allow you to have a couple of weekends uninterrupted to take care of the work – they may even lend a hand!
- 6) It will take more time for the prep than for the painting and many times more items will come up in the preparation that you did not budget for.
- 7) Be careful in pricing items – at times there is a difference depending on the time of year you are doing the purchasing.
- 8) Keep members engaged in the process by explaining each step and keeping them informed throughout the process. Some people may end up contributing more due to skills, others can always provide clean-up support, or meals for the workers!

## Other benefits (Quotes from Grange Reports)

“Done is better than perfect. Have Fun! Which we did.”

“Overall the teamwork, fundraising, project management, and execution of the project were a huge success”

“Replacing the doors and frames has helped in controlling the heating and cooling bills and better pest control”

“Good comments on the improvements on the ramp” “Customer from another organization offered to pay for the cement used in the ramp”

“Money was left in the budget to put on the commemorative dinner party in order to honor those who have helped in the process.”

**Celebrate your success!**