



Board Meeting Draft Minutes
Tuesday, October 28th 12:00pm to 1:30
Community Foundation, Larkinsville

I. Roll Call

II. Alliance Organizational Issues

- Approval of Agenda and previous board meeting minutes
 - REK moves to approve agenda, EH seconds, passes unanimously
 - REK moves to approve minutes with the proviso that they can be edited as needed, LHSk seconds, passes unanimously
- Treasurers Report—budget update (AW & KK)
 - No update
- Membership Report (LS)
 - Individual supporter, Cynthia, is interested in finding a way to recycle batteries. She is recommended to become an individual supporter by the membership committee, LHS moves to adopt this recommendation, EH seconds, it passes unanimously
 - RAM mentions that through his project with a class of UB Honors students, he will be recommending that we remove some members from our list due to inability to contact them or that they have folded as an organization; more to follow
- Board Nominations Report (RW)
 - Derek Nichols has been recommended to take over for Growing. RW offered to step down to allow Johnny Fenderson from PUSH to run unopposed. REK's term ends in 2014.
 - Representation from Waste in Pollution was also mentioned – it is suggested that another individual from the group be the representative to the board while AG chairs the group.
 - RW is willing to remain in a non-voting capacity. Increasing the number of members of the board was discussed. Keeping RW was identified as a priority.
- Action Agenda & Advocacy (deferred to in depth section)
- Congress (RM)
 - We do have a confirmed speaker, a date (12/1) and a proposed location (Butler Mansion). The UB Honors Class has been working to profile organizations and ask about the WNYEA, information that RAM hopes to present at the congress; reaction would be also collected at the congress
 - EH mentions the importance of inviting elected; AM, EH, CM and LHSk will create a list for specialized invitation outreach

III. In Depth Briefing/Discussion—Issue Specific

- Organizational Legal Status (REK)

- REK: ECEEI is definitely going on. They have agreed to turn over the existing structure including 501©3 to WNYEA. We have gotten an opinion from Mdf that there are no fatal flaws, that we can do this, and that it would be more expeditious than creating our own 501©3. The resolution from ECEEI has been signed and is available for us to take on (or not). To affect this shift we would simply need to sign their resolution, at which point we become the board of that organization and can do what further actions need to be done.
 - EH – are funds needed to be raised to cover D&O insurance It would be an add on to an existing policy. Funding for this is on the agenda for the CFGB November meeting and seems likely.
 - CM – CFGB policies and documents can be used as templates to ensure we are complying with applicable statutes.
 - RAM moves to adopt the resolution prepared by ECEEI. RW seconds. All present are in favor, the motion passes; we will work to get approval and signatures from absent board members.
 - EH asks REK to move forward with D&O
 - We have had 3-4 in-depth discussions of this at board meetings; kudos to REK for shepherding this along.
 - AW leaves the meeting at 12:57.
 - Advocacy Agenda and Process (LS)
 - LHSk – there are 12 proposals. They have been vetted and commented on. Comments were generally supportive. All of the comments are available from KK and some are available as a blog on GrowWNY.org. The draft action agenda is online.
 - LHSk moves that the planks be accepted. TY seconded. REK thanks LHSk for shepherding this as does RAM. The motion passes unanimously.
 - LHSk suggests that we do an evaluation after the next meeting to see how we move forward. If there is a board retreat perhaps this could be incorporated. It could also be asked of participants at the congress (or brought up to attendees). The board should think about the most strategic way to use these planks.
 - Outer Harbor Principles & Strategy (Many)
 - LHSk: A loose coalition with WNYEA, BNR, Times Beach, 21st century park, LWV exists and has been having meetings. There is agreement that the process should be public. The mayor will not make a public comment about our position. The group met with Sean Ryan yesterday to discuss next steps. We have won the first round (delaying the decision) which gave us a little breathing space. Having the land remain public and regenerative while still allowing ECDC to do work is still an issue – bringing in Terminal’s A&B is seen as a strategy. Infrastructure is being put in near the connecting terminal, potentially to support buildings, this issue needs to be addressed. Willingness to compromise is another outstanding issue. Funds spent in outer harbor development may be better used in revitalizing other areas of Buffalo (Central Terminal, Tonawanda Corridor, the East Side of Buffalo). Expanding our base as conveners could help this – affordable housing folks, developers who have invested elsewhere, etc. . . . Mobilizing large numbers of people should be a priority. Public Trust and Fiscal Responsibility are other arguments that apply here.
 - RAM leaves at 1:18.
 - The economic analysis will be relevant as well. EH suggests a power analysis and volunteers to facilitate that. RW suggests 11/15 as a date.

- LHSk asks that all board members seek support from their members for these efforts.

IV. Working and Process Group Quick Briefs

- Parks & Recreation
 - No report
- Pollution and Hazardous Waste
 - No report
- Habitat
 - No report
- Transportation
 - The Elmwood Avenue Bridge discussion seems to be a huge win.
- Energy and Climate
 - A 2015 climate summit is in the works. We seem to be behind the curve on energy projects in WNY
- Environmental Justice
 - A proposal was sent to the Kresge Foundation
- Growing
 - An internal strategic planning exercise is ongoing especially vis-à-vis the food policy council.
- Urban Regeneration
 - No report
- Education/Outreach
 - Education Mini: Conference in about 3 weeks. Thanks to all participating.
- Organizational Capacity
- Advocacy
 - Report above
- KK reminded groups to let her know about meetings so she can put them on the calendar

V. Next Alliance Meetings:

- Annual Congress December 1st (evening)
- December 2nd Board Meeting

VI. Adjournment

- RK and RW move to adjourn