



**Board Meeting Draft Minutes** (LHS)  
**Tuesday, May 27 12:00 to 2:00pm**  
**Community Foundation, Larkinville**

**I. Roll Call**

Ryan Mcpherson	Present
Robert Knoer	Present
Jay Burney	Present
Alexandra McPherson	Present
Art Wheaton	Present
Brian Dold	
Erin Heany	Present
Justin Booth	Present
Loren Smith	Present
Rebekah Williams	Present
Terry Yonkers	
Lindsay Amico	
Andrew Goldstein	
Karen Wallace	Present
Kristen Kaszubowski	Present
Cara Matteliano	
Richard Stockton	Present

**II. Alliance Organizational Issues**

- Approval of May Agenda and April board meeting minutes. Moved by RW, Seconded by RK, All in favor. The motion passes.
- Treasurers Report—budget update (AW & KK)
  - Community Foundation Budget Request for 14/15
- Membership Report (LS)
  - Melisa Dettbarn LS moves to approve as an individual supporter. RK seconds. All in favor, the motion passes.
- Internship Update (KK)
  - We are working to continue the strong internship program to support the alliance.
- Board Engagement & Nominations Process Report (deferred to in depth section)
- Action Agenda & Advocacy. RK moves to accept the resignation of MSS effective June 1. AW seconds. JBy opposes, all others in favor. The motion passes, with great sadness. Thursday's advocacy meeting is still on.
- 1RF Update (RM) The majority of time now has been thinking about implementation.
- Green Screen Training (RM). See Ryan's email and <http://www.greenscreenchemicals.org/resources/entry/buffalo-training>

- Communication Report (KK). There are some issues that we will need to circle back to at some point.

### III. In Depth Briefing/Discussion—Issue Specific

- Board Membership (nomination) [10 Min]
  - RW: Recruitment; identification of gaps. Board members should represent a working group but are not necessarily the chair of the working group. An advocacy chair is desperately needed. Specific organizations and individuals were discussed.
- The Big Vision—The Ecological Economy as a vehicle to implement the Alliance vision
  - Report of Working Group. What makes us unique at this time could be the intersection of our amazing landscape, the resurgence of Western New York and the growth of the alliance as a force to assert the primacy of the environment. [LHS interpretation]. We need to figure out how to have a rich discussion at the next quarterly meeting about who we are and where are we going. We may also need to develop a more concrete set of objectives and outcomes that we can use to measure our success.
 

Prior to the quarterly we need to share the vision we developed at the retreat, the tactics we brainstorm. At the meeting we can try to determine what that means to individual participants, what excites them, what tools we would need to have going forward, and what specific objectives we might have. ?What are individual organizations doing that might be moving towards these goals. ?What are the barriers that they face in taking the next ‘big step’ in this direction. The economic part is one tactic used in moving this endeavor forward. We should be developing more specific (fundable) goals we should be achieving over the next few years.

    - Discussion and Development
    - June 23<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly Meeting and Outreach Strategy
- Organizational Legal Status. The question has been posed as to how our action agenda and lobbying may reflect on CFGB. RK: Options include filing become a NYS not-for-profit corporation, filing to become a 501(c)3, becoming an association, among others. ‘For our own individual identity’ and to protect the Community Foundation we likely should move to start a process to be a truly separate entity. The specific route would need to be identified. RM moves that we start the process of filing for Not-For-Profit status under the New York State legal process. EH seconds. JBy opposes, all others approve (9-1). The motion passes. RK will develop a one-pager to start to guide the project further. EH suggests we investigate getting Directors & Operators insurance as soon as possible, and possibly liability insurance.

### IV. “Tweet Style” Working and Process Group Updates

- Parks & Recreation No Report
- Pollution and Hazardous Waste No Report
- Habitat: JBy The anti-fracking platform continues. The NYS energy blog encouraging comments continues (comments due by 5/30).
- Energy and Climate RK The last meeting was part of the earth day meeting. The group is trying to identify a new location. The Feed-in-Tariff, Climate Smart Communities & Greenway/Citizen’s Group for Regional Transit are the main topics of conversation.
- Environmental Justice. EH DOT is doing much more outreach after action by CAC and the EJ group, a significant shift in their behavior. The Huntley plant may be mothballed or retired; The plant also provide significant tax revenue to the region. Transitioning away from the coal economy is an important discussion going forward.

“Just Transition” will be on June 7<sup>th</sup> at NYS United Teachers in Amherst. “Perspectives on a Just transition” at 3:30 should be an interesting panel. See JustTransition.com.

- Growing (RW) Presentations have been occurring on the food policy council.
- Transportation No report
- Urban Regeneration (AW)
- Education/Outreach (KW) Last week was the Great Lakes Student Summit, most presenters were WNYEA members. We’re going to discuss a mini-conference for educators in the fall.
- Organizational Capacity (AM) See above
- Advocacy No report

#### **V. Next Alliance Meetings:**

- June 23<sup>rd</sup> Quarterly (location: UB Gateway) 4:30
- June 24th Board Meeting

#### **VII. Upcoming Events (general):**

- May 27 @ 4 pm @ Community Foundation – Parks Working Group
- May 28 @ 6:30 pm @ US DOE: Ashford Complex – West Valley Quarterly Meeting
- May 29 @ 4:30 pm @ Community Foundation – Advocacy Process Group
- June 2 @ 4pm @ BMOS - Education Process Group Meeting
- June 4 - All Day Green Screen Training (registration and fee required)
- June 4-6 Congress on New Urbanism
- June 4 @ 9am @ CFGB - Growing Working Group Meeting ?
- June 5 @ 4pm @ CFGB - Energy Working Group Meeting (followed by WAG) ?
- June 7 - All Day Just Transition Conference
- June 11 @ 4:30 pm @ BMOS– Grow 716/WNYEA Workshop, Topic: Power Mapping
- June 12 @ 4:30pm @ UB Gateway Building- Green Code UDO Workshop
- June 12 @ 4:15pm - Waste Working Group Meeting, location TBD
- See GrowWNY calendar

#### **VII. Adjournment** RM moves, RK seconds, approved.