



**WESTERN NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL ALLIANCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING AGENDA**

DATE TIME: *May 22, 2012 @ 12:00 Noon*

LOCATION: *Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo*

1. Call to Order Robert E. Knoer, Chair X

2. Roll Call
 - Anthony Armstrong (AA) X
 - Arthur Wheaton (AW) X
 - Loren Smith (LS) X
 - Robert E. Knoer (REK) X
 - Jay Burney (JBy) excused
 - Judy Einach (JE) X
 - Kerri Bentkowski Li (KB) X
 - Thomas Herrera-Mishler (THM) Resigned
 - Erin Heaney (EH) X
 - Megan Mills Hoffman (MMH) excused
 - Micaela Shapiro-Shellaby (MS) X
 - Justin Booth (JB) X
 - Terry L. Yonker (TY)

Also Present:

- Rebekah Williams X
- Richard Stockton X
- Ryan McPhearson X
- Cara Matelliano X
- Eve Berry X
- Michele Schmidt X

3. Approval of Agenda and Prior Minutes

Minutes Moved – AA, seconded – AW Passes with understanding of minor addition
Agenda Moved – AW, seconded EH Passes

4. Organizational Issues

- a. Treasures Report (AW)
Draft budgets have been distributed by RK for consideration – a small budget for the remainder of 2012 and a 2013 budget. AW recommends we accept Bob’s suggestion. JE moves to accept the 2012 budget. AW suggests. No opposition – passes with unanimous consent.

The 2013 budget includes increased acknowledgement of the services provided from the Community Foundation in the form of staff support. Cash support requested is \$12,500.

AW recommends we accept. There may be a separate budget for GROW requests, and there is an expectation that additional resources will be brought to bear from the alliance side in 2013. The budget does not include working group support since it is not yet adequately described.

- a. Budget request status (KB)
- b. Listserves and GROW (RW).

5. Report of Committees:

(PLEASE NOTE written minutes or a report should be submitted to the list serve prior to the meeting if possible)

- a. Membership Committee (LS,JE,AA)

- i. New Applications (see attachment 1)

- 1. Lake George - Member
 - 2. Lucy Cook Associates – Supporter
 - 3. Both adopted upon recommendation of the committee.

- ii. RS Question – how about Canadian entities? We encourage them to apply.

6. Report of Alliance Groups:

- a. Working Groups—Privileges and responsibilities of Chairs. See notes on GROW as they become available.

- i. Habitat and Natural Resources (JBy)

Be aware of the hydrofracking program on June 2nd. See the announcement in GROW for more details.

- ii. Parks and Recreation (THM)

iii. Energy and Climate Change (TY)

The focus in June is tying all of the Feed-in-tariff into a coherent position to pass on to advocacy. They will then launch into resetting the agenda on climate change in Western New York, linking to transportation and other working groups. This group is organizing the next quarterly meeting. Look for a position paper on climate change.

iv. Pollution and Hazardous Waste (JE)

Thanks for a great quarterly meeting. The mapping waste report is on the web site. DVD's will be available in the future. Representation from the group has been requested for the city panel on recycling. Sam McGavern is acting in this capacity. More details were requested to determine the exact nature of the relationship.

LS moves, AH seconds to approve use of the logo on the mapping waste document and to use the cover letter that RK has drafted. Unanimous approval.

v. Urban Regeneration (AA)

The Regional Institute and GBNRTC presented on the HUD sustainable communities planning grant that was awarded to help integrate planning efforts. AA will distribute notes through GROW.

vi. Environmental Justice (EH)

3 projects for the year – increasing turnout for greencode meetings, hosting a toxic tour, and hosting a social event to introduce the alliance and the working group to nontraditional partners. Solidarity issues – peace bridge expansion, getting a supermarket on the east side, and increasing turnout at events around the East Aurora compressor station.

vii. Food, Gardens, Agriculture (MMH)

A small group looked at priority areas identified by speakers at previous meetings and what member groups are doing to address those priority areas.

viii. Transportation (JB)

There was an update on the complete streets summit. The area seems to be progressing.

b. Report of Liaisons to Process Groups

1. Issues & Advocacy (MS)

- i. Status of Annual Agenda. Working groups should be developing planks to ensure that they go through the advocacy process in time to be on the ballot for the next congress. It is

important to distinguish between planks and campaigns. If there are questions about this distinction contact Micaela, Anthony, Erin or members of the advocacy group or board.

The group is developing a standard agenda to ensure items are reviewed and resolved, items that need to be discussed (prior to votes) and other items. It is CRITICAL for folks from working groups to attend the advocacy and other liaison groups.

2. Education & Outreach (LH)

- a. Speakers Bureau – please encourage representatives to consider joining the speakers bureau. We are seeking to have a critical mass before we do significant outreach (we want to ensure that we can meet demand).
- b. Representation from working groups is needed. In the absence of representation the group will likely focus on K-12 education and locally-based modules relating to the environment.
- c. Elected Official Outreach. The Advocacy, Education/Outreach and Capacity Building Groups are embarking on a year-long effort to get the word out to our elected officials about WNYEA and various 'products' we have developed. We will be providing training on how to meet with an elected official, develop talking points and leave-behinds (the CFGB trifold, the Waste Mapping report, the shared declaration of action), prioritizing which elected officials to meet with first, and developing preview and follow-up items.

3. Organizational Capacity (KB)

- a. GROW Strategic Planning. The planning process to look at the relationship between GROW and WNYEA has continued with additional meetings. A framework for transition has been developed for 2012 through 2015 and will be distributed. The transition will be incorporated into language for proposals and MOU's that will be used to fundraise and to clarify roles and responsibilities between CFGB and WNYEA. The basic question is how this resource (GrowWNY is incorporated into the development of the Alliance.

7. Old Business

- a. Report on Second Quarterly Meeting (JE)
- b. Congress 2012 (EH)

- i. Date: November 10th, 2012
- ii. Location TBD
- iii. Agenda
 - 1. Conduct organizational business
 - 2. Celebrate good work
 - 3. Engage and inspire
 - 4. Introduce and demonstrate power of alliance to policymakers and important stakeholders.
 - 5. Elections
 - 6. Adopting the annual agenda.
 - 7. ?Awards?
- iv. Food

8. New Business

9. Adjourn (approximately 1:30) Moved by MS, seconded by KB, approved.

NEXT BOARD MEETING June 26, 2012

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

WNYEA Quarterly Meetings (Proposed)

Third	September 18, 2012	Annual Meeting	November 10, 2012
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Board of Directors 2012 Scheduled Meeting Dates: Fourth Tuesday of the month

Attachment 1 – Membership Recommendations

The Membership Committee (Loren Smith, Judith Einach, Anthony Armstrong) recommends the following for affiliation with the Western New York Environmental Alliance: Little Lake George as a member and Lucy George as a supporter

Primary Contact Name	Cheryl Hugenschmidt
Primary Contact Email	littlelakegeorge@att.net
Primary Contact Phone Number	(716) 984-8900
Organization or Group Name	Little Lake George, Inc.
Name of Executive Director or Board Chair	Cheryl Hugenschmidt
Email of Executive Director or Board Chair	littlelakegeorge@att.net
Organization Phone Number	(716) 984-8900
Tell us your organization's mission statement	Little Lake George, Inc., is a 501 c 3 NYS Charity, whose mission is to foster environmental stewardship and offer youth, families, individuals, groups, and the handicapped the opportunity to connect with fishing and nature.
Tell us about your organization's environmental work	<p>Our 51 acre tract of land is located in the Town of Alden near the conversion of Walden Avenue and Genesee Street. It features an established 14.5 acre spring fed lake, graced with two islands as well as meadow, wetland and woodland habitat for wildlife. We foster opportunities for science, nature appreciation, fishing and hands on volunteer projects to protect and sustain the lake and its surrounding acres as well as habitat enhancements for wildlife. Children are encouraged to volunteer with their families. The unpolluted waters of the lake harbor a healthy community of bass, pike, perch and sunfish and it is entirely operated by volunteers as a fishing preserve. The natural areas at the site support the flora and fauna that are an intricate part of a balanced eco system. The lake lies within the migratory flyway which facilitates the restful layover for a variety of winged travelers.</p>
Authorized Signer	My organization agrees to support Our Shared Agenda for Action .

I am not affiliated with an organization.

Primary Contact Name

Lucy Cook

Primary Contact Email

cookassociatesconsulting@gmail.com

Primary Contact Phone Number

[\(716\) 863-8348](tel:(716)863-8348)

Organization or Group Name

Lucy Cook Associates

Tell us your organization's mission statement

Capacity Building and Technical Assistance Consulting and Support

Authorized Signer

My organization agrees to support [Our Shared Agenda for Action](#).