



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

DATE TIME: *July 24, 2012 @ 12:00 Noon*

LOCATION: *Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo*

1. Call to Order Robert E. Knoer, Chair

2. Roll Call

Anthony Armstrong	(AA)	present
Arthur Wheaton	(AW)	present
Loren Smith	(LS)	present
Robert E. Knoer	(REK)	present
Jay Burney	(JBy)	excused
Brian Dold	(BD)	present
Judy Einach	(JE)	present
Kerri Bentkowski Li	(KB)	present
Erin Heaney	(EH)	present
Megan Mills Hoffman	(MMH)	present
Micaela Shapiro-Shellaby	(MS)	present
Justin Booth	(JB)	present
Terry L. Yonker	(TY)	present

Also Present:

Richard Stockton	present
Ryan McPherson	present
Michele Schmidt	present

3. Approval of Agenda and Prior Minutes AW moves to accept agenda, approved. May & June minutes – AW moves to accept, JE seconds, approved.

4. Organizational Issues

- a. Introduction and vote re Brian Dold as Board Liaison to Parks and Rec. AA moves to accept, EH seconds, unanimously approved.
- b. GROW and the WNYEA “post- Rebekah”. Michele Schmidt will be assisting. Rebekah’s e-mails will be going to Cara and Betsy. List-serves are status quo.

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

Niagara University: Sustainability Committee as an affiliate moved by LHS, seconded by AA, unanimously in favor.

ii. Education Institutions Role

1. “Members’ (i.e., the academic institution)

2. “Affiliates”(i.e., the departments, student groups . . .)

A more immediate conversation might be increasing participation.

The committee will go back and look at the issue.

6. Report of Alliance Groups:

a. Working Groups—Privileges and responsibilities of Chairs

i. Habitat and Natural Resources (JBy) no report

ii. Parks and Recreation (BD)

Participation is encouraged. BOA’s and the Niagara River Greenway were discussed at the last meeting.

iii. Energy and Climate Change (TY)

Next meeting 8/2. Feed-in-tariffs will be discussed among other items. FIT will also be sent up through the advocacy group. The September quarterly meeting is coming along, and several other groups will be participating.

iv. Pollution and Hazardous Waste (JE)

P&W will be contributing to the Energy & Climate white paper. At the September meeting a Cornell representative will be reporting on concentrated feeding operations and pollutants.

v. Urban Regeneration (AA)

Catherine Tumbler came to the last meeting and gave a good talk. The regular meetings may be rescheduled. A few planks will be going up for the platform. Access to vacant property will likely be one. CFGB will be funding startup of the centerspace project. Look for an opening Spring of 2013.

vi. Environmental Justice (EH)

The Knight Foundation grant for citizen journalism/texting and the GROW web site has been a primary focus. A pilot should be launched next month. A plank about EJ and the peace bridge has been submitted, and the group will likely collaborate in the climate change white paper.

vii. Food, Gardens, Agriculture (MMH)

The group is working on the benchmark priorities, there are a few planks coming forward and there will be white paper participation.

viii. Transportation (JB)

The group is on summer break, From June, there is a new bike share program. The Green Code appears to be accommodating of biking and pedestrians. The Niagara Street Corridor is also a significant project. There may be more green infrastructure opportunities.

b. Report of Liaisons to Process Groups

1. Issues & Advocacy (MS)

a. Status of Annual Agenda

A chair is being sought for the I&A group. Please spread the word and make recommendations. The focus is to lightly vet each of the proposals that come forward. There will be meetings every 2 weeks as the review process goes forward. 7/26, 8/9, 8/23 @ 4PM @ RK office. Planks should be submitted as early as possible.

b. Training for advocacy

2. Education & Outreach (LH)

A plank is in development.

3. Organizational Capacity (KB)

a. GROW Strategic Planning – the board accepted the GROW recommendations at the last meeting. The group will now look to re-orient to ensure it is meeting the needs of the alliance and member groups. An e-mail poll will confirm this via a vote.

7. Old Business

a. Third Quarter Meeting (TY)

- i. Date September 18th 2012
- ii. Location Marcy Casino
- iii. Topic “ Climate Change across the Working Groups”
- iv. Logistics

b. Congress 2012 (EH)

- i. Date: November 10th, 2012
- ii. Location The Butler Mansion is reserved – it will work if we don’t have an

outside speaker. The Gates Vascular Center at the BNMC has also been investigated.

iii. Spencer cannot make it, so we need to revisit whether or not to have a speaker. Erin will talk with Ryan about a potential University speaker.

iv. Agenda

1. Conduct organizational business

a. Election of Directors

b. Vote on Annual Agenda

2. Celebrate good work

3. Engage and inspire

4. Introduce and demonstrate power of alliance to policymakers and important stakeholders.

v. Food

8. New Business

9. Adjourn (approximately 1:30) LHS, unanimously seconded.

NEXT BOARD MEETING August 28, 2012

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

WNYEA Quarterly Meetings (Proposed)

Third September 18, 2012 Annual Meeting November 10, 2012

Board of Directors 2012 Scheduled Meeting Dates: Fourth Tuesday of the month