



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

DATE TIME: *January 22, 2013 @ 12:00 Noon*

LOCATION: *Community Foundation for Greater Buffalo 525 Larkin Building*

1. Call to Order Robert E. Knoer, Chair (JE presiding, 12:08)

2. Roll Call

Robert E. Knoer,	Chair	(REK) present
Judy Einach,	Vice Chair	(JE) presiding
Arthur Wheaton,	Treasurer	(AW) present
Loren Smith,	Secretary	(LS) present

Anthony Armstrong	(AA) Present
Jay Burney	(JBy) Present
Brian Dold	(BD) Present
Kerri Bentkowski Li	(KB) Excused
Erin Heaney	(EH) Present
Megan Mills Hoffman	(MMH) Present
Micaela Shapiro-Shellaby	(MS) Present
Justin Booth	(JB) Present
Terry L. Yonker	(TY) Present
Ryan McPherson	(RM) Present
Rebekah Williams	(RW) Present

Also Present:

Cara Matteliano	Present
Richard Stockton	
Kristen Kaszubowski	Present
Carolyn Human	Present

3. Approval of Agenda and Prior Minutes: Approved with the usual condition that they can be changed later on.

4. Organizational Issues

- a. Treasurers Report (AW): Nothing new to report.
- b. List serves and GROW (Kristen Kaszubowski). The GROW 716 texting project has undergone its first pilot and is moving forward. A mobile web site is being developed in parallel. Earth Day Plans are moving forward with an attempt to get more followers of organizations and their Earth Day events on twitter. Strategic Planning for GROWWNY 2.0 continues – looking for ways to involve members more. Look for a presentation at the next board meeting. Several requests have come forward for college students and teachers to attend meetings.
- c. Communications Subcommittee Report Ryan McPherson
 - a. Intern Record-keepers - look for more information at the February meeting
 - b. Content from Working Groups and Members – more at the February meeting
- d. Liaison position for Growing Group. MMH is resigning as the chair of the growing group. Growing is suggesting that RW be the liaison to the board and Cheryl Thayer of the Cornell Cooperative Extension will be the chair at the meetings. RK moves to accept MMH’s resignation with gratitude, AW seconds, none opposed – passes unanimously. RW moves to appoint RW as liaison, RM seconds, approved unanimously.

5. Old Business:

- a. First Quarterly Meeting March 13, 2013
 - i. Growing Group:
 - 1. Date: March 13, 2013
 - 2. Place: Marcy Casino (now run by Magnolia Catering)
 - 3. Topic: The food policy council advocacy plank – what a food policy council is, etc. and a panel discussion.
- b. Second Quarterly Meeting (May/June) 2013
 - i. Habitat and Natural Resources Group
 - 1. Date: TBD, mid/late June
 - 2. Place: TBD
 - 3. Topic: Hydrofracking. The habitat group has educating the community and the WNYEA about Hydrofracking as a policy plank and this will be the focus of this quarterly meeting.

[Aside – a checklist should be developed for running a quarterly meeting]

c. Third Quarterly Meeting

- i. Presentation of Advocacy Agenda to be responsive to the expressed interest of members and member organizations to be better informed about the agenda. We need to ensure that appropriate work has occurred in the working groups to have the process well under way prior to this meeting. Also we need to ensure that there is sufficient parallel communication about the process and the products to promote education about the planks.

1. Date: ~September
2. Place: TBD
3. Topic: Each Working Group will have an opportunity to present the status of the 2013 Agenda and the draft proposed 2014 Agenda to the member organizations.
– a prelude to the Congress and the vote on the agenda.

RM commits to developing additional graphics and flowcharts to explain the process by which the advocacy agenda is developed.

d. 2014 Congress

- i. Date: November 9, 2013
- ii. Place:
- iii. Conference Chair (Nominees)

6. New Business:

JB volunteers to participate on the Rapid Response Advocacy Team. AA expresses interest, JB removes his name from consideration, AA is added to the group.

7. 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
- ii.

The Membership Committee recommends that membership be conferred on the organization 'Wild Spirit Education' - their application materials are pasted below.

Primary Contact Name Paul Fehringer

Primary Contact Email info@wildspirit.org

Primary Contact Phone Number (716) 492-3223

Organization or Group Name Wild Spirit Education

Organization Web Address <http://www.wildspirit.org>

Name of Executive Director or Board Chair Paul Fehringer

Email of Executive Director or Board Chair paul@wildspirit.org

Organization Phone Number (716) 492-3223

Organization's mission statement: To enhance an appreciation for the environment through education and advocacy.

Organization's environmental work Wild Spirit is a leader in WNY in environmental education. We also participate in scientific studies such as bird banding, chapter of FrogWatch and NestWatch. The organization agrees to support Our Shared Agenda for Action.

JB moves, JE seconds, passes.

8. Report of Alliance Groups:

(PLEASE SEND Any DETAILED REPORT OF MEETINGS VIA EMAIL SO WE HAVE TIME FOR DISCUSSION)

- a. **Working Groups—Privileges and responsibilities of Chairs (attached)** (REK)
 - i. Habitat and Natural Resources (JBy)
 1. The group developed comments on the Hydrofracking RDGEIS and continues to work on invasive species, CAFO's (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations). All working group chairs are invited to the next meeting as the group develops the second quarterly meeting (see above). The group is working on a knowledge/white paper library.
 2. Progress on Agenda
 3. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals
 - ii. Parks and Recreation (BD)
 1. The meeting was postponed to the 29th, the group is hoping to team up with the community advisory committee of the Greenway to provide more input. PPG put out a report on the Greenway as well.
 2. Progress on Agenda
 3. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals
 - iii. Energy and Climate Change (TY)
 1. See the minutes on the GROW web site.
 2. Progress on Agenda
 3. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

4. RK – there has been a request to send a letter on FIT’s – it should be reviewed by the Rapid Response Team to ensure that it is in compliance with the plank. There has also been a request for the alliance to sign on/shepherd an application through the CFA process which does not seem appropriate.

iv. Pollution and Hazardous Waste (JE)

1. Progress on Agenda. The group has pulled from “Mapping Waste” various sections that align with the new district boundaries and is setting the stage for meetings with public officials. Other folks should be ready to step up to leverage visits with elected officials and bring other issues to the table.
2. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

v. Urban Regeneration (AA)

1. Progress on Agenda. A small subgroup is focusing on greencode issues. The timeline for this process continues to slide. A letter has been drafted to the Brown administration expressing concerns and urging sufficient time be allocated to address those concerns. January 29th is a community meeting at Babeville to discuss the ‘One Region Forward’ process (HUD supported). There will be 5 working teams on working sets – names are being solicited by AA ASAP if you are interested. RK will talk with Hal to see if there is an appropriate role for the WNYEA. No opposition is expressed to being involved in the One Region process. RM expresses interest. JB moves to appoint RM, RW seconds, AA abstains, motion passes.
2. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

vi. Environmental Justice (EH)

1. Progress on Agenda. The group is piloting the text message project. The plank focused on the Peace Bridge – ‘Gearing up for Action’ training program for the neighborhood has been launched, air monitoring projects have been launched, and a direct mail piece is in the works.
2. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

vii. Growing Group (MMH)

1. Progress on Agenda. Jesse Gauck (sp?) discussed the food policy steering committee. Membership has been a focus at this time.
2. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

viii. Transportation (JB)

1. Progress on Agenda. The Complete Street summit was a positive event. The group has looked at goals and objectives. Looking forward evaluation of impact will be a focus.

2. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

b. Report of Liaisons to Process Groups

1. Issues & Advocacy (MS)

- a. Please send representatives from each working and process group to the Advocacy meetings. Looking forward the group hopes to undertake a needs assessment around advocacy.
- b. Progress on Agenda
- c. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

2. Education & Outreach (LHS)

- a. Jay Burney from the Habitat Working Group addressed the group. He outlined the plans of the Habitat Group to organize the second quarterly meeting to focus on fracking and solicited participation from members of the Education & Outreach Group. The remainder of the meeting focused on sharing upcoming state-wide conferences for environmental educators, environmental education curricula and nature-focused apps for mobile devices. Each of these areas will hopefully provide material that can be content on the GROW web site. We also reiterate our availability to assist with the advocacy planks adopted at the congress.

3. Organizational Capacity (KB) – No Report

- a. Progress on Agenda
- b. Status of 2014 Agenda Proposals

9. Look for a doodle poll to determine an appropriate time for a happy hour

10. Adjourn (approximately 1:30) Unanimous motion to adjourn.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEETINGS:

Board of Directors 2013 Scheduled Meeting Dates: Fourth Tuesday of the Month

January 22	February 26	March 26	April 30	May 28
June 25	July 23	August 27	September 24	October 22

Quarterly Meetings

March 13, 2013 **May___** **August___**

WNYEA Congress: Annual Meeting November 9, 2013

November 26, 2013 Organizational Meeting

Holiday Break No Meeting December 2013