Western New York Environmental Alliance
GROWING WORKING GROUP

MEETING MINUTES
June 5th, 2013

Roll call
Rebekah Williams (RW)-Massachusetts Avenue Project
Cheryl Thayer (CT)-Cornell Cooperative Extension Erie
Sarah Stimpson (SS)-Food Bank of WNY
Kristen Armstrong (KA)-Urban Roots/Grassroots Gardens
Derrick Byrd (DB)-Environmental Justice Action Group
Mary Strottele (MS)-SOLE, Wellness Institute of Greater Buffalo
Annie Levay (AL)-SOLE of Buffalo
Bobbie Thoman (BT)-Community Member

April meeting minutes approved

Updates from member groups
(To access links, hold down “Ctrl” and click on hyperlink).
RW: Farm labor rights rally at MAP on Friday at 11:00 AM.

WNY Environmental Alliance update
• The Habitat and Natural Resources working group is hosting the next quarterly meeting, which is June 9th at 5:30. Topic will be on fracking. Representatives from Food and Water Watch and Sierra Club will be present to answer questions. At 4:30 (directly prior to the meeting), advocacy training will be provided to those interested.

• Special presentation by Micaela Shapiro Shellaby on WNYEA advocacy process. For specific information on advocacy process, click HERE. When formulating our Action Agenda/Advocacy Goals, it was recommended to use the PRIMO methodology (Precise, Realistic, Inspiring, Measurable, Outcome Oriented).

Working Group Business-Finish 2014 action agenda
Utilizing the PRIMO method, all Growing Group members are asked to review the 2014 action agenda and rate topics/issues that we, as a group, would like to raise up to the WNYEA Board. This will be discussed in greater detail at our next meeting, so please come prepared with ideas.

New Business
The Growing Working Group has been asked to submit a blog article to the www.growwny.org website in June. The article will be in response to the following video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EzZzZ_qpZ4w

All Growing Group members that would like to contribute to the blog should answer the following questions by end of day Monday, June 10th. Please send responses to Rebekah Williams at rebekah@mass-ave.org. We’re hoping to portray the diversity of
our member groups, so the more responses/perspectives, the better! Pithy, one sentence, answers are preferred.

- How do the issues Ron Finley brings up about food deserts, gardening, land use/access, or health relate to the work you or your organization does?

- Finley is very passionate about guerilla gardening. What are you passionate about regarding these issues? Why is this work important to WNY?