

# **CJWG Meeting Notes**

## **WebEx - 6.21.23**

**Meeting Commence 12:04pm**

*Disclaimer: \*Please note this is not a word for word translation.*

### **Agenda:**

1. Roll Call
2. Vote on minutes 3/27 & 4/6
3. Annual review of criteria
4. Draft Bylaws
5. Future meetings
6. Next steps

### **CJWG Members:**

- Alanah Keddell-Tuckey, EJ Director, Office of Environmental Justice, DEC
- Jill Henck, Clean Energy Program Director, (ANCA) Adirondack North Country Association
- Amy Klein, Capital Roots
- Rahwa Ghirmatzion, Executive Director, (PUSH) People United for Sustainable Housing Buffalo
- Jill Henck, Clean Energy Program Director, Adirondack North Country Association
- Mary Beth McEwen, Interim Executive Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Oneida and Madison Counties
- Elizabeth Furth, Empire Fellow, Department of Labor
- Chris Coll, Director of Energy Affordability and Equity Program, NYSERDA
- Sonal Jessel, Director of Policy, WEACTION for Environmental Justice
- Elizabeth Yeampierre, Executive Director, (UPROSE)
- Eddie Bautista, Executive Director, NYC Environmental Justice Alliance
- Abigail McHugh-Grifa, Executive Director, Climate Solutions Accelerator of the Genesee-Finger Lakes Region
- Neil Muscatiello, Director of the Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology, Center for Environmental Health, DOH
- Tyler Picard, (NYSERDA) New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, Project Manager Energy and Climate Energy

### **NY Attendees Board Rooms :**

Albany, NYC, Raybrook Region 5, Avon Region 8, Buffalo Region 9

### **Draft Bylaws: Alanah**

- Proposed 3-year term with option of subsequent term
- It outlines officers, responsibilities, duties and meeting procedures

- To replace a CJWG member CLCPA stipulates making a recommendation which will be elevated to Chamber. Each member represents a certain area of New York state. There will be a vetting process.

**Eddie:** I recommend people of color to maintain the diversity Donathan contributed.

**Elizabeth Y:** Thank you for including language to accommodate people remotely who have special needs. When looking at bylaws I am concerned about the idea of having one 'chair'. Are we open to co-chairs? Having one chair feels undemocratic. Can we reexamine so there is broader leadership?

**Alanah:** We can take that back and discuss it. We do not need to vote on bylaws today.

**Abigail:** Regarding the selection nomination process was that explicitly defined in the bylaws?

**Alanah:** We can take that back and discuss it.

**Eddie:** Some comments he has heard. He too struggles with the idea of a state agency representative remaining chair of CJWG. What signal does this send to New Yorkers? Why are bylaws being suggested now after years of the CJWG being in operation?

**Alanah:** Now is a good time. It was not the best time earlier due to COVID.

**Abigail:** I have mixed feelings about having a substitute member swapping in. How does the working group feel about this?

**Amy:** I echo Abigail's concern. She does not feel good about having substitutes.

**Lisa:** I wanted to clarify quorum is required to deliberate.

**Elizabeth:** Am I hearing that members do not think a substitute delegated is a good idea?

**Abigail:** I expressed mixed feelings about it. Curious what others think within the group.

**Jill:** Lisa, thank you for clarification. I am not opposed to having proxies.

**Alanah:** We will take all this information and get back to the working group.

**Eddie:** I am ambivalent about proxies. I recommend that it is on the organization that the proxy is ready to engage. I would like a standard for the proxy.

**Alanah:** Currently there is no timeline for replacing Donathan. The sooner the better. If members have a recommendation, please send it to Alanah.

**Amy:** Meeting attendance is a priority. Usually in non-profit bylaws there is a percentage of meetings you are permitted to miss. There is usually a warning process.

**Lisa:** If you have any suggested language can you share that and I can maybe incorporate them into the proposed bylaws.

**Amy:** Happy to share that.

**Alanah:** We will redraft bylaws and ensure the updated version is sent to all working group members.

### **Vote on approval of minutes from 3/27 & 4/6**

- Any amendments or inaccuracies before we vote- no
- *Approve vote:* Chris, Amy, Elizabeth Y, Sonal, Elizabeth F, Eddie, Neil, Jill, Abigail, Rahwa, Megan, Alanah
- Minutes approved

### **Future Meeting Options Discussion**

How often do we want to meet?

- Quarterly-90 minutes
  - Easier to stay engaged
- Triannual-90 minutes
  - Easier to schedule
- Biannually-2 hours
  - Fewer meeting, more emails
- Annually-full day
  - Not ideal

**Albany:** If you do by-annual and miss one meeting you are missing a lot versus a more frequent option where you can be plugged in more.

**Chris:** Depending on what we project to happen within a year fitting this into smaller meetings may be more difficult.

*Thoughts from working group:*

- **Jill:** Quarterly or tri-annually is fine.
- **Neil:** Same
- **Rahwa:** Same
- **Sonal:** Quarterly

### **Question, comments concerns**

**Sonal:** Concern about the map. Would be great to have an overlay of assembly and senate districts on the map.

**Alanah:** This is something I think we can do.

**Eddie:** I keep hearing cap and invest. Cap, trade and invest program is clearly what it is. We need transparency with what it is being called. It feels misleading as is. CJWG did not endorse a cap, trade, and invest program.

**Alanah:** I will share Eddie's feedback with Jon Binder. Thank you, Eddie.

**Jill:** Curious if any other members are having conversations with agency staff about how to implement the criteria.

**Elizabeth F:** Was there an email about getting GIS map updates?

**Jill:** Regarding ANCA; with official criteria these programs are being redesigned. I am part of this conversation.

**Alanah:** I encourage everyone to discuss amongst themselves without the state involved.

*No further comments/concerns from working group*

### Next Steps

- Looking to finalize the bylaws
- Next meeting will be in August 2023

### Closing remarks

- In final scoping plan cap and invest was recommended. We expect the program to create financial resources in a lot of communities.
- Looking for more input from advocates of this program.
- Folks are encouraged to participate in 6/22/23's meeting

**End: 1:11pm**