



NYS Community Gardens Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday March 13, 2023

1:00 PM – 1:30 PM

10B Airline Drive, Albany NY 12235, Apple Orchard Empire Conference Room
Shirley A. Chisholm State Office Building, 55 Hanson Place, Brooklyn NY
215 Lyman Hall, Syracuse NY 13210
57 Myrtle Hill Park, Rochester NY 14606
Virtual via WebEx

[WEDNESDAY APRIL 12, 2022, THE NYS COMMUNITY GARDENS TASK FORCE REVIEWED THE PROPOSED MINUTES. CHRIS ANDERSON, NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS, MADE A MOTION TO ADOPT THESE MINUTES. MELISSA MACKINNON, SCHENECTADY URBAN FARM, SECONDED. THE COMMUNITY GARDENS TASK FORCE APPROVED THE RESOLUTION IN A VOTE OF 14 YEAS, 0 NAYS, AND 0 ABSTAINS. THIS DOCUMENT IS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC PURSUANT TO OPEN MEETINGS LAW §103(e)]

The NYS Community Gardens Task Force gathered on March 13 with the intent of holding a meeting pursuant to Open Meetings Law. However, in-person attendance was insufficient to reach quorum, so the meeting was postponed. Next meeting date TBD.

Community Gardens Task Force Members (In Albany)

- Chris Anderson, *New York Association of Towns*
- Yolanda Bostic Williams, *New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation* (arrived late with prior notice)
- Lewis Clarke, *New York State Department of Health*
- Peter Dunleavy, *New York State Department of Transportation*
- Melissa MacKinnon, *Schenectady Urban Farm*

Community Gardens Task Force Members (In New York City)

- Andrew Barrett, *Food Ed Hub/Coalition*
- Gerard Lordahl, *Grow NYC*
- Carlos Martinez, *NYC Parks GreenThumb*
- Gabrielle Mosquera, *Teens for Food Justice*

Community Gardens Task Force Members (In Rochester)

- Pamela Reese Smith, *Community Gardens for Rochester*

Community Gardens Task Force Members (In Syracuse)

- Jonnell Robinson, *Syracuse Grows*



Task Force Members (Virtual Due to Extraordinary Circumstance)

- Katharine Petronis, *New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*
- Mark Izeman, *Natural Resources Defense Council*
- Amy Klein, *Capital Roots*

Advisory Members

- Brian Steinmuller, *NYS Soil and Water Conservation Committee*

NYS Agriculture and Markets Staff

- Nicole Leblond, *Deputy Commissioner*
- Kelly Young, *Director, Agricultural Development*
- Kendall Hough, *Program Manager, Agricultural Development*
- Taylor Goodell, *Food Policy and Outreach Coordinator, AmeriCorps VISTA*

Current members of the Community Gardens Task Force include:

- Stephen Acquario, *New York State Association of Counties*
- Chris Anderson, *New York Association of Towns*
- Yolanda Bostic Williams, *New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation*
- Lewis Clarke, *New York State Department of Health*
- Peter Dunleavy, *New York State Department of Transportation*
- Katharine Petronis, *New York State Department of Environmental Conservation*
- Andrew Barrett, *Food Ed Hub/Coalition*
- Mark Bordeau, *Rural Health Network*
- Tim Chen, *Grassroot Gardens of Western New York*
- Aziz Dehkan, *New York City Community Garden Coalition*
- Allison DeHoney, *Buffalo Go Green*
- Miriam Dalaei Fondera, *Edible Schoolyard*
- Yolanda Gonzalez, *Cornell Cooperative Extension: New York City*
- Iyeshima Harris, *East New York Farms*
- Mark Izeman, *Natural Resources Defense Council*
- Virginia Kasinki, *Downing Park Urban Farm/ Newburgh Urban Farm and Food Initiative*
- Amy Klein, *Capital Roots*
- Marilu Lopez-Fretts, *American Community Garden Association*
- Gerard Lordahl, *Grow NYC*
- Melissa MacKinnon, *SiCM/Schenectady Urban Farms*
- Carlos Martinez, *NYC Parks GreenThumb*
- Qiana Mickie, *New York City Office of Urban Agriculture*
- Gabrielle Mosquera, *MPA, Teens for Food Justice*



Agriculture and Markets

- Emma Phillips, *Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe*
- Jonnell Robinson, *Syracuse Grows*
- Gregory Sandor, *Cornell Cooperative Extension: Nassau*
- Pamela Reese Smith, *Community Gardens for Rochester*