

Minutes

NORTH TONAWANDA CLIMATE SMART TASK FORCE

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2026, 5:00 pm, City Hall, North Tonawanda

Attendees In Person @ City Hall: Austin Tylec, Erin Robinson, Tim Pieper, Emily Root, Jim Guido, Justine Stevens, Mike Tuzzo, Nick DiNardo, Evan Clausen, Erin Hanaburgh (University at Buffalo Regional Institute), Breton Sloan (Buffalo Audubon)

Meeting called to order at 5:02.

AGENDA TOPICS:

1) Approval of March minutes

Tim motion to accept; Austin 2nd. Carried.

2) Membership Updates

- a. Introductions
- b. Welcome Nick Dinardo and Evan Clausen!

3) Campaign and Research Area Updates

- a. Guest presentation and discussion: Dawn Timm, Niagara County to visit in May
- b. Other local campaign/interest updates? (Justine, Josh)
 - i. Home for Gnomes. Erin H will see if they are re-printing pamphlets this year.
 - ii. Social media announcement and campaign Erie County re: rain barrels and compost bin sale through May 27 <https://erie.compostersale.com/>
 - iii. Justine will circulate pamphlet developed as part of Source Water Protection Plan with next water bill
 - iv. Justine will look at opportunity for organic waste drop off at libraries that Josh R shared
- c. Updates on research for CSC status (Tim and Erin H.)
 - i. More coming out soon on toolkits for municipalities
 - ii. SUNY students working on climate adaptation plans this summer
 - iii. Regional GHG inventory was approved, and we can use that data for points
 - iv. May 11, at 6:30 pm, UB Planning Grad Program presenting on NT Parks Master Plan

4) Community Connections; State and Local

- a. Grant opportunities updates (Clean Community, infrastructure projects, charging stations, etc) (Austin, Evan)
 - i. CNS will look at climate/green grant opportunities
 - ii. Charging stations moving forward, will be 4 on Manhattan St
 - iii. Audubon did not receive their award through the DEC Invasive Species grant, but looking for other opportunities
- b. NYS Climate and Community Protection Act (CCPA): Advocacy developments (Erin R., Deb)
 - i. Moratorium on data centers
 - ii. Delaying targets for climate laws
 - iii. Class action lawsuit against Digipower X

5) Community Calendar

- a. April 9, Green Drinks, 5:30 pm Mint Mojito Bar, 1225 Niagara Street, Buffalo
- b. April 18, Canal Clean Up- 9 am Mayor's Park, NT

- c. April 23, 5:30-8pm Bird Friendly Buffalo Symposium, UB South, 403 Hayes Hall
<https://www.birdfriendlybuffalo.com/>
- d. April 25th BNWK Cleanup 10am-Noon, Sign up: <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/springsweep/>
- e. April (TBD) UBRI and SBR Webinar on roadmap to emission reduction, Information: <https://regional-institute.buffalo.edu/work/1rfca/>
- f. May 2, Love My Park Day, Information: <https://www.ptny.org/events/i-love-my-park-day/>
- g. May 9 and May 21, Nurdle Patrol Training, 10-11am, Sign up: <https://bnwaterkeeper.org/event/nurdle-patrol-training-may-9/>

6) **New Business?**

Meeting adjourned at 6:22. Motion by Austin, 2nd by Jim.

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2026