

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA  
Wednesday, June 12, 2013  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Large Conference Room  
DEP Headquarters, Trenton, New Jersey**

**9:30 a.m.      OPENING REMARKS**

- Welcome and introductions
- Review agenda/new business items, if any
- Discuss/approve draft March meeting notes

*Dale Rosselet, Chair*

**9:40 a.m.      Status of Commission Appointments**

- Discussion RE: communications with appointments staff
- Review of draft letter and personalization
- Discussion RE: submissions of letters, related details/process and follow-up

*Dale Rosselet*

**10:00 a.m.      NJELP Work Group – Update (CTA Action #1)**

- Update on state **NJ Environmental Literacy Plan** activity, including:
  - Update on ELP meetings with NJDOE and related ELP requirements
  - Update on ELP content pieces
  - Update on ELP database and website
  - Update on funding request #2 for ELP funds
  - 2013 timeframe and plans, and summer activities

*Dale, Mike and Tanya*

*Dale or Mike Heinz  
Tanya Oznowich  
Mike Skelly  
Tanya Oznowich  
Dale and Tanya*

**10:20 a.m.      NJ Earth Day/Environmental Education Week 2013**

- Summary of EE Week, Earth Day and Earth Week activities
- Discussion RE: lessons learned and ideas for 2014

*Tanya and Marc*

**10:30 a.m.      BREAK**

**10:45 a.m.      Growing the NJ Kids and Nature Network (CTA Action #2)**      *Dale Rosselet*

- Update on the **NJ Outdoor Bill of Rights** for 2013
- Activities planned for 2013 and who is currently involved
- Small groups or group discussion: What can individuals and the groups we represent do to help?
- Summarize group input and devise action plan

**11:15 a.m.      General EE Updates and Spring/Summer EE Efforts**

- National EE/NAAEE update
- U.S./NJ Green Ribbon Schools Program Update
- Eco-schools/Sustainable Jersey
- NJSBA Workshop-EE/Green School Activities
- NJ Sustainable Schools Conference Summary
- NJ School to Farm Conference Summary
- Envirothon 2013 Summary

*Pat and Mike Skelly  
Carol James or Tanya  
Donna Drewes or Dale  
John Henry or Tanya  
Carol James or Marc  
Marc Rogoff  
Rich Belcher or Marc*

- NAAEE conference highlights
- ANJEE updates – conference, awards, strategic plan
- Other EE announcements and updates

*Tanya Oznowich  
Danni, Dale and Pat  
Group members*

**11:55 a.m. CLOSING REMARKS & DEPARTURE**

- Meeting highlights and closing remarks
- Autumn meeting schedule
- Departure

*Dale Rosselet*

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group NOTES  
Wednesday, June 12, 2013  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor Large Conference Room  
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**OPENING REMARKS**

NJCEE: Jim Shissias, Rich Belcher, John Shafranski, Stacey Kenneally, Donna Drewes, Sharon Sherman, Tanya Oznowich, Dale Rosselet, Marie Downes, Anne Galli, Derek Shendell, Dani Logue, Rebecca Jordan

IWG: Kyra Hoffmann, Marc Rogoff

PUBLIC: Mike and Pat Skelly, Wes Brooks

MEETING NOTES: Derek moved to post notes, John 2<sup>nd</sup>, all in favor All prior notes to be posted to the website.

Derek suggested meeting once a quarter – Sept/Nov/Feb/March/June

Dale – discussion to be followed to determine date options.

Smaller meetings or conference calls can still be done if needed.

To be started in the fall.

WEBSITE REPORT: Shared numbers and (site on screen) pointed out sections and needs. Hit-rate increased during April along with Earth Day interest. See document for full data.

**Status of Commission Appointments**

- Members asked to draft letters to appointments office (customizable form letter and list of legislators to be sent out to members) to be sent to Governor's office. Timing to be determined. Appointments are awaiting approvals from the Governor's office. Pat asked when the last series of appointments occurred. (Corzine administration) Tanya pointed out 2014 is the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commission. The letter should include accomplishments of the commission and recognition of the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Originally signed by Governor Kean with the commissioners of both DEP and DOE.
- The members list needs to be updated. Reclassify members who are no longer appointed to the list to either friends or advisors. Public relations would really be helpful!
- 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary committee could be created. 25 year timeline and activities list should be added to website. Should we look to assistance from Tom Kean's son (member of assembly)? Need a champion to help tout the accomplishments. Pat – the more the NJCEE shines, and it should – NJ has had the commission for 25 years while other states are mimicking us only now, the more it will focus public attention on EE and environmental advocacy. Derek suggested using other groups or grad students to partner with – ANJEE, colleges, clubs.
- Many events in the past have gotten grants due to their association with the NJCEE.
- Co-sponsoring existing EE events would be a great way to spread our name.

**NJELP Work Group – Update (CTA Action #1)**

- The **Call To Action** is alive and well and being folded into the ELP. The DEP and DOE are more supportive of this. The workgroup will be meeting later this afternoon to work on the timeline.

- Documents handed out (see links). NJ is one of 48 states working on their ELP's. About 25 states have completed theirs. Pat used the term "Pre-K to Grey" to show education for public, communities, and schools.
- Mike – correlations to standards and guidelines. 9 different standards adopted by NJ, NAAEE standards and Federal standards all utilized. NJ has created a database (unlike other states), that includes lessons, activities and other assessment points for teachers. The database will be beyond a correlation, but will include concepts that will bridge formal and non-formal educators as well as cross-curricular education throughout the state. The site will be housed on the ANJEE website.

### **TEACHER/ADMINISTRATOR STATUS REPORT:**

(Sharon Sherman)

NJ Schools Initiative: Every teacher and administrator will need to be evaluated starting this fall. Evaluations will be based on student-learning objectives and standardized testing. PARCC will replace the NJASK. Teachers/administrators will be given 1 year if they are not "good enough" or they will be replaced. Raters are being trained already this year. Schools are losing teachers and administrators at a great number due to retirements and moving out of state. Salaries are being capped and other states are now better financial options. The NJELP will be a great resource for teachers due to the fact that it does not require additional work, but works with existing standards!

**Teacher Preparation:** NCATE replaced by CAPE. Summary just released and will be available in the fall. Pre-service teachers don't usually have the GPA or SAT scores that the new regulations will require.

- Charter schools will require only a Bachelors' degree and they will be the evaluating agency.
- Teachers in NJ do not need a masters' degree.
- Supervisors only need 3 years of good observations and do not need a masters' degree.

Teachers need to include in lesson plans all the references to the standards, which our database will enhance. These are the difficulties that need to be overcome to get EE to the teachers of New Jersey. Goals need to be linked to individual assessments as well as standards. This will allow teachers to meet Student Learning Objectives (SLO) that the commission can help create/guide.

(Rebecca Jordan)

EL and its' relationship with science and social literacy.

Other items on agenda left to future or online...

### **NJ Earth Day/Environmental Education Week 2013**

- Summary of EE Week, Earth Day and Earth Week activities
- Discussion RE: lessons learned and ideas for 2014

### **Growing the NJ Kids and Nature Network (CTA Action #2)**

- Update on the **NJ Outdoor Bill of Rights** for 2013
- Activities planned for 2013 and who is currently involved
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- Summarize group input and devise action plan

### **General EE Updates and Spring/Summer EE Efforts**

- National EE/NAAEE update

- U.S./NJ Green Ribbon Schools Program Update
- Eco-schools/Sustainable Jersey: NJCEE invited to attend kickoff informational meeting (July 22 from 1-4 pm at College of NJ – invitation to be mailed out soon. Task forces to be created – NJCEE members encouraged.
- NJSBA Workshop-EE/Green School Activities
- NJ Sustainable Schools Conference Summary
- NJ School to Farm Conference Summary
- Envirothon 2013 Summary : This year was the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary event. See the website for full details. 24 schools participated. ([www.njenvirothon.org](http://www.njenvirothon.org)) Friend them on Facebook!
- NAAEE conference highlights
- ANJEE updates – conference, awards, strategic plan
- Other EE announcements and updates

### **CLOSING REMARKS & DEPARTURE**

NCLI releasing latest version in the coming weeks.

**Audubon World Series Birding** – event won this year by youth team.

Derek – archive newsletters ([njsafeschools.org](http://njsafeschools.org))

Don't forget EEdNews and send pictures for the website to Marc.

- Autumn meeting schedule – to be posted and emailed in the near future.
- Departure