

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group Conference Call – Meeting  
Agenda and Meeting Notes  
Tuesday, November 19, 2013  
9:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

**Call-in Phone #: 605.475.4350  
Passcode: 308731#  
Mute/Unmute Keys: \*6**

**On the Call:** Dale Rosselet (Chair), Anne Galli (Vice Chair), Tanya Oznowich, Rich Belcher, Stacey Kennealy, Heidee Perez, Derek Shendell, Pat Skelly, John Henry and Danni Logue

- **Greeting and Opening Remarks** **Dale Rosselet**
  - Roll call and introductions
  
- **NJCEE Appointments and Communications Info** **Tanya Oznowich**
  1. Tanya will update the current email list for current members, nominees and EE friends; there have been some changes – this will be completed this week
  2. DEP submitted some commissions/councils that are minimal work for appointments – our commission is on that list for hopeful “post-election” appointments
  3. Tanya maintains a spreadsheet with contact info for nominees and re-appointees; some people on the list have changed jobs or moved and spreadsheet must be revised, along with resumes; Tanya will be contacting these individuals in November
  4. There will be shifting in at least one seat on the commission, due to John Henry’s position change; Tanya will discuss the change and options for the opening with Dale and Anne
  
- **25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Preparations** **Tanya Oznowich**
  1. Tanya has a list of milestone accomplishments for 20years of commission activity; she is beginning to go through the archives (meeting by meeting) to create comprehensive highlights of their work from 1988 (creation by EO) to 2014
  2. The commission is planning to celebrate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2014, during EE Week and Earth Week (last two weeks in April)
  3. May have something to review and discuss at December meeting (TBA)
  
- **Sustainable Jersey for Schools Program** **John Henry and Dale Rosselet**
  1. New sustainable school certification program was kicked off by Sustainable Jersey (SJ) earlier this year – NJ School Boards Association (NJSBA) is co-sponsoring the program
  2. The program is under development and should be ready to accommodate schools at the beginning of the 2014 – 2015 school year
  3. Several task forces have been created by task or topic, including energy, wildlife, transportation, curriculum, health & wellness, etc.
  4. First round of meetings were held in October – November; 2<sup>nd</sup> round will be in January
  5. First meetings have involved brainstorming, background info, structure and goal-setting

6. Membership on the task forces is still open – NJCEE and work group members were encouraged to join a task force and help facilitate future overlapping efforts between the EE commission and SJ for Schools program
7. Tanya will circulate a list of task force groups and NJCEE/work group members that sit on them; members that are currently on one or more task force groups include Dale, Derek, Tanya, Pat, John and Marc
8. Reporting on SJ in schools activities will become a regular feature on the NJCEE meeting agenda

- **NJSBA Convention (Workshop) and Update** **John Henry**

1. 2<sup>nd</sup> year that NJSBA included emphasis on sustainability and STEM in schools (workshops and floor exhibits) – both received positive feedback this year from school board attendees
2. Went from 17 exhibitors last year to 35 this year and may increase floor space for next year
3. Had over 20 workshops on topics related to sustainability/STEM
4. Dozens of school facility directors were present in the workshop sessions
5. NJSBA offered first academy training (optional training for con't ed. credits) on Sustainability topics to school board members; 46 board members were in attendance; there are six more sessions in the series to go – off to a good start

6. NJSBA took on (from NJDOE) administering the final year of the 4-year grant Green Program of Study program for vocational and career preparedness. The administrative oversight of the program is still being transferred and established but several vocational and public high schools are involved with this pilot program. (Derek is involved with the assisting with the health component of the program and Tanya is involved as the DEP representative). **To learn more about this program, go to <http://www.njgreenprogramofstudy.org/>**

- **Environmental Literacy Plan (ELP) Update** **Dale Rosselet and Tanya Oznovich**

1. Work group/ANJEE submitted a funding request to the Klipstein Foundation for Phase II funds to complete the ELP database and website but the request was turned down for 2013 funds (we were encouraged to re-submit in 2014)
2. The ELP work group will be meeting by phone on Monday morning (11/25) to discuss next steps for ELP development and completion

- **National EE Update** **Pat Skelly**

1. The No Child Left Inside Act (NCLI) was reintroduced this past summer; however, the versions of it are different in the House and Senate due to political interests (in formal education oversight and duties)
2. **Latest rendition of the NCLI proposed Act is different than past version and worth reading; go to: [Senate version \(S.1306\) Summary/Text: http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th/senate-bill/1306](http://beta.congress.gov/bill/113th/senate-bill/1306) [House version \(H.R.2702\) Summary/Text: https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/hr2702](https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/hr2702)**
3. NJ is one of 48 states who are developing or already implementing their state ELP; the new rendition of the law provides funding to help implement state ELPs, largely through funds for professional development and model programs; there is also increased focus on 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce training and career preparedness, which is an appealing facet to political leaders

4. Pat also attended the NAAEE conference and New England EE Conference (provided remarks about some of her conference activities)
5. Pat mentioned the Toys R Us advertisement (has anti-kids outdoors in nature message) and that it is getting attention nationally (this was not discussed at our meeting; to learn more, go to [http://www.reddit.com/r/environment/comments/1poz6x/the\\_north\\_american\\_association\\_for\\_environmental/](http://www.reddit.com/r/environment/comments/1poz6x/the_north_american_association_for_environmental/))
6. Derek mentioned a press announcement led recently by the American Public Health Association regarding their new national policy statement related to nature and getting outdoors. To learn more, visit the link below and go to “2013 Nature, health and wellness”: <http://www.apha.org/about/news/pressreleases/2013/2013adoptedpolicystatements.htm>

- **ANJEE Conference Update**

**Danni Logue/Group**

1. Conference theme is “Cultivating Environmental Citizenship”; **Registration is open**
  2. ANJEE is soliciting sponsors, workshops and exhibitors
  3. There will not be another board meeting before the conference; the next board meeting will be held at the March Leadership Retreat
- Commission and work group members and nominees are encouraged to participate in the conference as a presenter, exhibitor and/or participant.** To learn more about the conference go to: <http://anjeeconference.wordpress.com/>

- **EE Updates from the Field – Round Robin Reports**

**Group Members**

1. **Rich B.: Conservation Education Update** – go to site and check out: [www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/nrc/conservationedu.html](http://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/anr/nrc/conservationedu.html)
  - Conservation Poster Contest – Soil theme; 2<sup>nd</sup> grade through high school
  - 2014 NJ Envirothon – May 2 – 3, 2014 at NJSOC; and
  - Memorial Conservation Scholarships – for college students in natural resource programs
2. **Derek S.** – awaiting word about their comprehensive EPA grant
3. **Anne G.** – Wetlands Institute (Stone Harbor, NJ) is involved with a community project to help restore bird habitat at the Stone Harbor Bird Sanctuary – over 40 volunteers helped at site
4. **Stacey K.** - GreenFaith received funds for 2<sup>nd</sup> year of grants for water conservation; this year they can accommodate faith-based schools and is looking for help to promote this opportunity
5. **Haydee P.** – Annual after-school conference is this Friday (Dale is conducting a workshop there on kids in nature); to learn more, go to [www.njsacc.org/providers/conference.php](http://www.njsacc.org/providers/conference.php)  
**Haydee** also announced this NJ bill that has been introduced: **S3072** Rice, Greenstein, Establishes "New Jersey Out-of-School Time Advisory Commission" to review before-school, after-school and summer programs; appropriates \$60,000. NO TEXT AVAILABLE for introduced bill. Same as A4348, introduced 9/9/13; to learn more, go to: [www.njleg.state.nj.us/2012/Bills/A4500/4348\\_II.PDF](http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/2012/Bills/A4500/4348_II.PDF)
6. **Dale R.** – NJA hired a NJ Ecoschools coordinator and she is Jennifer Dowd; Prior to NJA administration of NJ Ecoschools program, 40 NJ schools were registered; currently there are over 100 NJ schools registered; in addition, through NWF and EPA, NJ Ecoschools will be establishing partner Ecoschools in Taiwan; to learn more, go to: [www.njaudubon.org/SectionEducation/ProvidingfortheEducationCommunity/NWFEco-SchoolsUSA.aspx](http://www.njaudubon.org/SectionEducation/ProvidingfortheEducationCommunity/NWFEco-SchoolsUSA.aspx)