

AGENDA
Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education
And Inter-agency Work Group
Tuesday, June 29, 1999, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon
DEP Headquarters, Public Hearing Room, First Floor

9:00 – 9:15 a.m.

- I. Welcome and Introductions** Lou Iozzi
- Review and approval of 3/3 meeting notes
 - Updates or follow-ups from 3/3 meeting Tanya Oznowich
 - Membership list – circulate and check
 - Afternoon field trip attendance – head count

9:15 – 10:30 a.m.

- II. Committee Reports and Group Discussion**
- A. Network Committee** Frank Gallagher
- Funding update
 - Content and design update
- B. Program Committee** Tanya Oznowich
George Schlosser
- EE Forum update and outcomes
- C. Publications Committee** Karen Wintress
Anne Galli
- Annual report update
 - Revised Plan of Action
 - EE brochure idea
- D. Finance and Legislative Committee** Jim Shissias
Tanya Oznowich
- Legislative opportunities and tasks
 - State budget opportunity and tasks
 - Establishment of a larger committee
- E. Inter-agency Work Group** Tanya Oznowich
George Schlosser
- Survey for state EE resources update

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.

III. BREAK

10:45 – 11:30 a.m.

- IV. Announcement regarding the position of NJCEE Chair** Lou Iozzi
Tanya Oznowich
- Special presentations to Lou
 - The acceptance of nominations
 - The election process and how to handle

11:30 – 11:50 a.m.

- IV. Summer and Upcoming Activities** Tanya Oznowich
- Establish joint commission/work group meeting schedule For 1999 – 2000/Traditional break for summer
 - Establish committee meeting schedule for Summer, 1999
 - Joint ANJEE and NJCEE summer meeting opportunity Frank and Tanya

11:50 a.m. – 12:00 noon

- V. New Business and WrapUp** Lou Iozzi
- New business, if any
 - Wrap up and closing remarks



Meeting Notes
**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
and Inter-agency Work Group**
Wednesday, March 3, 1999

Attendees: Recharad Belcher, Robert DeCicco, Emile DeVito, Mimi Dunne, Joe Eldridge, Joan Elliott, Frank Gallagher, Anne Galli, Don Haberstroh, Patricia Hanratty, Jayne Haussler, Toni Hendricksen, Paul Kaleda, Pat Kane, Lynn Keepers, Christine Keresztury, John Kirk, Kathleen McLaughlin, Ray Mueller, David Nash, Sam Race, Barbara Rich, Barry Schlegel, George Schlosser, Kathryn Schmidt, Jim Shissias, Helen Skerratt, Suzanne Willis, Karen Wintress

Absent: Erin Dougherty, Lou Iozzi, Tanya Oznovich

- Meeting convened at 9:23 a.m.
- Anne Galli made a motion to accept the meeting notes from the previous joint meeting. Lynn Keeper seconds. The meeting notes were accepted by all members.
- An update was provided regarding Dr. Bruce Marganoff and his retirement from the NJ Department of Education. A card of congratulations was circulated for signatures. Frank suggested that the commission send a letter asking Bruce to attend all future commission meetings as a representative of Research for Better Schools, Inc.
- David Nash provided an update on the state's core curriculum content standards and circulated a handout regarding the state's testing schedule. Currently, much instructional time is to be used for student testing. Just in fourth grade in seven subject areas, about 1 month of testing time is required. David asked the commission to consider developing sample alternative testing strategies. The NJ Science Supervisors Association put together a summary of the standards and assessment code. The DOE is recommending that New Jersey get rid of 4 years of required English and existing requirements such as Carnegie credits. The only new requirement would be to pass the state's core curriculum content standards.
- The new commissioner will be appointed on or by April 5th. Dave recommends that the commission meet with the new commissioner and also develop hands-on authentic study models, to share with DOE.
- Regarding professional development, the new program will not be in place until September, 2000.
- Dave Nash would be happy to include guest articles in the newsletter for his NJSSA membership.
- The concept of having a joint meeting between interested members of the commission and work group with members of the steering and advisory committees of the Alliance for NJ Environmental Education (ANJEE), was introduced. The background and interests of ANJEE were discussed and the proposed joint meeting agenda was reviewed.
- George Schlosser recommended that the commission create an "inventory" of newsletters and other publications produced by commission members or the env. ed. community at large. It was recommended that newsletter and website information be added to the commission and work group membership list.
- The Garden State Environmental Network circulates environmental articles and information daily. The commission should use this resource regularly.
- Pat Kane suggested that we send representatives when representatives themselves cannot attend a meeting.

- **Program Committee Report**
 Reviewed the NJ Environmental Education Forum agenda and related logistics, including speakers and the involvement of some commission members, food and related costs, location, etc. Frank made the motion to have commission funds pay for food for the forum. Anne seconds the motion and the motion was passed by the voting members of the commission. A letter of invitation would be distributed to legislators and key representatives in the fields of environmental education, education, science, business and community service.
- **Communications Committee Report**
 Updated the group on the ongoing effort to revise the Plan of Action. Karen thanked everyone for the help so far, a lot of effort has gone into the process. The revision process will be tabled this spring, in order to pursue and finalize the commission's annual report.

 - In this first-time annual report, the committee will focus on "What is EE?" and how is this group, as representatives of specific groups, working towards addressing the issues involved in environmental education. This year's report should be eye-catching, with photographs and graphics illustrating EE in action in New Jersey. The report will serve as an introduction to future annual reports, which will contain greater detail.
 - Pat Kane suggested that a bar graph depicting #'s of people reached by EE be included in the annual report. For example, in the NJAS its eight centers reached ¾-million people through 1,300 programs, using its 42-person staff.
 - Similar information needs should be added to the commission web site so that other EE professionals in the state can submit information to add to state statistics.
 - Jim Shissias recommended that the annual report reference Governor Whitman's recent reception last Friday for businesses that supported the state's open space initiative.
 - It was suggested that the report be called "The State of EE in New Jersey."
- **Funding Committee Report**
 If the group or a committee requires a project to be funded than a description and skeletal budget of the project and its needs, is required. The group should consider using the funding experiences of the supporting commission organizations in writing grants or in seeking out funding sources.
- **Inter-agency Work Group Report**
 The work group is developing and will pilot a resource survey first, with members of the work group. This will be reviewed by the commission before circulation. It will go to all principal state agencies slowly, not at one time. In this way, modifications to the survey can be made, if needed. By June will have a draft survey for commission review, to be used on pilot state organizations in the summer.
- **Web Site/EE Network Committee Report**
 The web site will offer information about critical environmental issues, a directory of various EE expertise, and platforms for data sharing. This current design and set of objectives are based upon earlier focus groups done in conjunction with ANJEE and with ANJEE members. Members of the committee include Frank, Karen, Christine, Ray, George and Don.
- Notes submitted by Karen Wintress and Kathy McLaughlin