

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
And Inter-agency Work Group**

**AGENDA**

**Wednesday, March 27, 2002**

NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Public Hearing Room

- 8:45 a.m. Coffee and Tea**
- 9:00 a.m. Opening Remarks**
- Welcome and introductions
  - Review of agenda – changes, new business
  - Review of meeting notes from February meeting – changes, motion to accept
  - 2002 meeting logistics and autumn additions
  - Membership update regarding openings and candidates
- 9:30 a.m. General Remarks and Updates**
- Dealing with the drought and potential needs of commission members
  - Status of federal funds for environmental education
  - Other new business items or updates
- 9:45 a.m. Committee Updates**
- Finance and Legislative Committee
  - Publications Report
  - Network Committee
  - Program Committee
    - Update on solicitation for proposals for \$1,000 stipends
    - Group discussion/agreement regarding selection criteria
    - Finalization of approval process/announcements
- 10:30 a.m. Break**
- 10:45 a.m. Focus Group Discussion on the Draft Science Standards**
- With Arthur Mitchell, State Science Coordinator, NJDOE
- 11:50 a.m. Meeting Wrap Up**
- Logistics for next meeting and meeting highlights
  - Departure

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**NJCEE:** Rich Belcher, Erin Dougherty, Joe Eldridge, Frank Gallagher, Kathy McLaughlin, Art Mitchell, Tanya Oznowich, Barbara Rich, Barry Schlegel

**IWG:** Elizabeth Faircloth, Rodney Groff, Marc Rogoff

**Guests/Friends:** Janice Reese-Berardo, Michael Skelly, Sr., Pat Skelly

- No changes to the agenda. Rich made the motion to accept the meeting notes from February; Kathy provided a second. All were in favor.

- Tanya reviewed commission openings: Pat Kane (retired) replaced by Dale Rosselet; Sam Race (retired) replaced by Rich Belcher; high school – must be replaced – we have two candidates that have come forward – Richard Wilczewski (Moorestown High School) and John Moore (Burlington County Institute of Technology).

- Tanya provided a brief overview of DEP Earth Day activities and drought outreach activities.

- Tanya announced that the Dodge Foundation informally shared that they would be providing phase II funding for the implementation of the EIC approach in New Jersey.

**Legislative and Finance Committee**

- Frank put together a draft and beginning list (shared copies) of sample environmental education projects that could be funded from local litigation activity/fines.

- **Concern:** Should the commission use their time for issue-specific projects such as this? Or, should it use its time for capacity building? Shouldn't the commission be working to revise and then begin to fulfill the plan of action, and not specific projects? This is OK if it can be shown to be supportive of the more broad purpose of the commission.

- **Response:** Yes, but let's be opportunists and take advantage of the opportunity, since getting stable funds for our interests is difficult. The projects should be aligned with the guiding principles and should be in support of various aspects of the plan of action.

**Publications Committee**

- Tanya is completing the 99/00 annual report, which was reviewed by the DEP NJO staff and the graphics staff for edits and design comments. She also received comments from George, Anne and Rod – special thanks to them for reviewing the report. The 01 will also be worked on – she hopes to have both available at the June 4 Environmental Education Forum.

- Tanya will begin work on Plan of Action revisions this summer, after the June 4 event is over.

**The Environmental Education Network and Inter-agency Work Group Committee**

- Update on network – The group agreed that the set up that we had at Rutgers/Cook College isn't working. It has been stagnant and low priority. The group also agreed that the network shouldn't be housed as part of the DEP server, since SEEDS currently reflects/is limited to only DEP resources or partnerships.

- Mike Skelly, Sr., presented a proposal for ongoing work with the commission as it relates to the state environmental education network/web site. The annual fee would be **\$600.00**. This fee would include having a storage place for the files, a host or server for the web site, and communications links. This fee does not include maintenance and the updating of data and information, which (may)be handled jointly by Marc (for the NJCEE) and Janice (for ANJEE). This would be taken from the commission's trust fund, unless another source of funds exists during any given year.

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- Motion made by Erin Dougherty: To pay Starfyre Network Services, Inc., **\$600.00** annually to host the EE web site, to provide a storage place for tiles, and to provide communications links. (Second by Barbara Rich; all were in favor and no abstentions.)

**Program Committee**

- Tanya provided an overview of the grant applications received. The commission and DEP received 19 application forms for \$20,000 – for which we have only \$10,000 to disperse. Selection criteria needed to be put together. The criteria should include whether and how they met the application requirements (references to the standards, references to the guiding principles, a budget, etc.) but should go beyond these basic needs, since most of the applications did these well.

- Criteria suggestions included geographic location and the use of EPA rating scale and criteria for regional and national environmental education grant selections. Frank offered to e-mail this to Tanya, who agreed with the group to adapt EPA criteria. From recollection, some items were thought to include time frame; qualifications of the presenters; replication/modeling; assessment; ability to deliver objectives; cost-effectiveness; and, audience impact.

- Judges will include Barry, Kathy, Helen, Marc, Tanya, Rod and Erin.

**New Business**

- Art Mitchell provided an update regarding the revised content standards. Time was spent working in small groups to focus on the revised 5.12. Comments were given directly to Art. He was also scheduled to do a meeting in the afternoon with employees.