

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

**Friday, September 20, 2002**

NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor Large Conference Room

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|-------------------|---|--|
| <b>8:45 a.m.</b>  | <b>Coffee and Tea</b>   |  |
| <b>9:00 a.m.</b>  | <b>Opening Remarks</b>  |  |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Welcome and opening remarks</li><li>• Review of agenda</li><li>• Review/acceptance of May meeting notes</li><li>• Reminder about autumn meeting schedule</li><li>• Membership update</li><li>• Membership logistics information</li></ul>   | <b>Frank</b><br><br><b>Tanya</b><br><b>Marc</b>                    |
| <b>9:15 a.m.</b>  | <b>Brief Remarks and Discussion with Kathleen Bird,<br/>Director of Communications for NJDEP</b>  | <b>Tanya</b>   |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Group introductions with Kathy</li></ul>  |  |
| <b>9:25 a.m.</b>  | <b>Updates: Summer and Ongoing EE Activities</b>  |  |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EIC/Dodge Foundation grant update</li><li>• High performance schools/Gov's Executive Order</li><li>• National updates in the field of EE</li><li>• Round Robin: Sharing of new business items or updates</li></ul>  | <b>Tanya</b><br><b>Tanya</b><br><b>Frank/Tanya</b><br><b>Group</b> |
| <b>9:45 a.m.</b>  | <b>Review/Discuss Task List for 2002-03</b>   | <b>Frank</b>   |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- EE legislation</li><li>- Forums</li><li>- Reports (Plan of Action revisions, 01 annual report, 02 annual report)</li><li>- Science and social studies standards</li><li>- Environmental projects listing, future funding options or pursuits Earth Day 2003 activities</li><li>- Promotion and enhancement of the EE Network web site</li><li>- Earth Day 2003 activities</li><li>- Promotion and enhancement of the EE Network web site</li><li>- Development of progress indicators</li><li>- Promotion of the 2002 EE stipends recipients and work performed</li></ul> |  |
| <b>10:00 a.m.</b> | <b>Commission leadership and committee makeup</b>   | <b>Frank</b>   |
| <b>10:15 a.m.</b> | <b>Finance and Legislative Committee Update</b>   |  |
|                   | <b>Publications Committee Update</b>  |  |
| <b>10:35 a.m.</b> | <b>BREAK</b>  |  |
| <b>10:50 a.m.</b> | <b>Network Committee Update</b>   |  |
|                   | <b>Program Committee Update</b>   |  |
| <b>11:30 a.m.</b> | <b>Meeting Wrap Up</b>  | <b>Frank</b>   |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Wrap up</li><li>• Departure</li></ul>   |  |

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
And Inter-agency Work Group  
Meeting Notes - Friday, September 20, 2002 – Page One**

**NJCEE Attendance:** Frank Gallagher, Anne Galli, Fletcher Harper, John Kirk, John Lysko, Kathy McLaughlin, Tanya Oznowich, Barbara Rich, Dale Rosset, Barry Schlegel

**IWG Attendance:** Arthur Davenport (NJ Youth Corps), John Dougherty, Elizabeth Faircloth, Marc Rogoff

**Guest(s):** Kathy Bird, Janice Reese-Berardo, Mike Skelly, Sr.

\* **Opening Remarks:** Frank provided opening remarks and welcomed everyone back for a new school year of joint commission and work group meetings. His remarks focused briefly on state, national and international environmental or environmental education issues and results from the Summit in Johannesburg, as well as 'bleak' input about environmental issues from a course that he teaches at Cook College, Rutgers University.

\* **Change of Leadership:** Frank shared his need to resign as Chair of the Commission. His decision is largely due to his changing position and priorities with his work here at DEP, and potential conflicts with commission interests. He will continue to serve on the commission as the ANJEE representative but will not be active on the Legislative and Finance Committee. He was regretful about this change. John Kirk provided an overview of Frank's strong contributions as Chair and, on behalf of the commission, thanked Frank for his leadership and support. Frank then asked for commission members to entertain nominations for Chair. Names of nominees should be submitted to Tanya and discussion/decisions about this will occur at the October meeting. John Kirk agreed to continue serving as Vice Chair. Frank will send an electronic letter of resignation to NJCEE/IWG members.

\* **September Meeting Notes:** There were no suggested changes to the May meeting notes. Anne Galli made the motion to accept them; John Kirk provided a second; all were in favor; no one opposed, no one abstained. A quorum was not present.

\* **Meeting Logistics:** Tanya reminded everyone of the logistics for the October and November joint NJCEE/IWG meetings; Marc circulated the attendance roster and asked people to provide corrections on the membership list.

\* **New Business and Updates:** EIC delivery in New Jersey; high performance schools in the State; new interpretive facility at the FREC; PEQs grant from BPU for congregations; national EE issues, such as status of EE funds through EPA and EE certification through NAAEE – some discussion about pro's and con's of EE professionals requiring this, as well as classroom teachers. (Frank and Elizabeth will get more information about this – good topic of discussion at a future meeting.)

\* **Introduction of Kathy Bird, Director of Communications:** Kathy oversees the environmental education and outreach activities that Tanya and Marc are responsible for, as well as other communications activities, such as campaigns, priority outreach initiatives, publications, speeches, press events, etc. She described her current responsibilities, the DEP's major priorities, and her background.

\* **NJDOE Update on the Classroom Standards:** The science, math and language arts standards were adopted in August. The other 6 areas were presented to the State Board of Education in September. Public comments to the board are currently being accepted for 2 months. Support for environmental content is needed in Social Studies and Health. There are 5 strands in Social Studies now – the environmental emphasis and geography have been merged together. We should look for major issues and send in new language changes, if we have any. Details regarding feedback will be shared with NJCEE/IWG members, as well as with ANJEE members through ANJEE ONLINE, before the October meeting.

\* **Priority Tasks and Projects for 2002 – 03** (Reaction to List Already on Agenda):

- **EE Legislation:** Start to establish 'behind the scenes' individual support from potential sponsors and co-sponsors on the environment and education committees through individual meetings and phone contact; Get the 01 annual report to entire State Legislature this session along with EE promotions; (DEP Commissioner Campbell did not support pursuit of the EE bill this year because of tight budget – he asked us to hold off.) Littell and MacNamara were some of the key sponsors of our bill.

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
And Inter-agency Work Group  
Meeting Notes - Friday, September 20, 2002 – Page Two**

- **Standards Support/Outreach:** Provide support for the pending draft social studies and health standards; once all are revised, make sure EE community are aware of the revised/changed standards, especially in Science and Social Studies
- **EE Network Survey:** Conduct the survey through NJDEP and begin to develop a NJ database of sites and facilities that features EE specific information about each resource
- **01 and 02 annual reports:** Get them done and distributed to the NJ State Legislature, DEP managers and key employees, ANJEE leadership, and extra for EE 'friends'
- **Relationship w/ANJEE:** Improve and strengthen the relationship between NJCEE, IWG and ANJEE membership
- **General Promotions for NJCEE/IWG and EE:** More press interaction and coverage year-round, as there are good EE activities going on statewide that could possibly get press coverage. We should develop a list of important things to bring to the public's attention.
- **Earth Day/Earth Week:** NJAS is already considering themes throughout the year; this can be enhanced with a declared theme for Earth Week each year; Mike Skelly, Sr., agreed to look into the themes celebrated at the public libraries as well
- **EE Partnerships:** Improve partnering relationships with entities in education, business, the environmental fields and religion, as per the sustainable and U.N. models
- **DEP Presentations on Priorities/Outreach or Ed. Initiatives:** The group agreed to have these continue as part of the joint NJCEE/IWG meeting agenda's

\* **Financial Update:** Tanya wasn't prepared to report on this (guilty!) She believes we have between \$15,000 - \$16,000 in the Environmental Education Trust Fund, and about \$8,000 left in the Earth Day Education Fund.

\* **Committee activities and committee membership** will be discussed at the October meeting.

\* **Wrap Up – Priority Issues that Emerged:** Public relations and press; Legislation and funding opp's; Earth Day activities; Key publications; determining new leadership