

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group - AGENDA  
Tuesday, September 21, 2004  
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Public Hearing Room**

- |                   |  |   |
|-------------------|--|---|
| <b>9:15 a.m.</b>  | <b>COFFEE AND TEA</b>  |   |
| <b>9:30</b>       | <b>Opening Remarks</b>   | <b>Joni Elliott</b><br><b>Tanya Oznowich</b>  |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and introductions</li> <li>• Review of agenda</li> <li>• Request for new business items</li> <li>• Review/acceptance of June meeting notes</li> <li>• Follow-up with EE survey activities</li> <li>• Approval of expenditure for a plaque for Leslie</li> <li>• Approval of expenditure of \$1,000 for ANJEE newsletter</li> <li>• Budget update for 2004-05 commission work</li> </ul> |   |
| <b>9:50</b>       | <b>Updates and Discussion on Projects</b>  | <b>Group Members</b>  |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commission and Work Group Membership</b><br/>- Ballot results and existing openings</li> <li>• <b>Commission and Work Group Web Site</b><br/>- Update on components and sections at site</li> <li>• <b>Commission Bi-Laws – Group Discussion</b></li> <li>• <i>Environmental Primer</i> Publication<br/>- Status report</li> </ul>   | <b>Fletcher Harper</b><br><b>Tanya Oznowich</b><br><br><b>Marc Rogoff</b><br><br><b>Joni Elliott</b><br><br><b>Tanya Oznowich</b> |
| <b>10:20</b>      | <b>BREAK</b>   |   |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Plan of Action</i> Revisions Process<br/>- Draft development process<br/>- Overview of conservation education discussions</li> </ul>   | <b>Dale Rosselet</b><br><b>Tanya Oznowich</b>   |
|                   | <b>Reports on Partnership and New Initiatives</b>  | <b>Members &amp; Guests</b>   |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy Education Partnership: Overview and Group Discussion</li> <li>• NJ Environmental Education Directory: Overview and Group Discussion</li> </ul>   | <b>Jeff Brown,</b><br><b>Global Learning, Inc.</b><br><br><b>Tanya Oznowich</b>   |
| <b>11:40 a.m.</b> | <b>Closing Remarks</b>   | <b>Joni Elliott</b>   |
|                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autumn meeting logistics</li> <li>• New business, if any</li> <li>• EE news to share by group members</li> <li>• Closing remarks/<b>DEPARTURE</b></li> </ul>  |   |

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group – Meeting Notes  
Tuesday, September 21, 2004 – Page One**

**NJCEE Attendees:** Marie Downes, Fred Ellerbusch, Joni Elliott, Anne Galli, John Kirk, Kathleen McLaughlin, Tanya Oznowich, Barbara Rich, Dale Rosselet, John Shafranski, James Shissias, Karen Wintress

**IWG Attendees:** Marianne Evanko, Marc Rogoff

**Guests:** Jeff Brown, Paula Gotsch

**Opening Remarks and General Topics for Group Discussion**

- Joni Elliott, Chair, **reviewed the agenda**, conducted **introductions** and asked for **new business items** (none were added).
- Jim Shissias made a **motion to accept the June meeting notes**; second was provided by John Shafranski; meeting notes were approved (as is) with no abstentions or opposition.
- John Shafranski made a motion to **purchase plaques for Leslie Parness and Erin Dougherty**, both whom recently resigned from the commission when their terms expired. Anne Galli provided a second; the awards were approved with no abstentions or opposition.
- Tanya presented a **budget update** for funds that are currently available to the commission for their work/access in 2004-05 or are under their advisement to be spent according to a grant project (i.e., the funds from DCA for the energy education project).
- Tanya discussed one of the budget items, the decision the commission made two years ago to **contribute \$1,000 annually to ANJEE to offset costs for the ANJEE newsletter**. It is time to make this contribution again. Tanya suggested that only a portion be used for the newsletter (which is being done on an irregular basis by ANJEE volunteers), and that a portion go towards the ANJEE conference. This arrangement could include having the commission and work group be listed as a sponsor or donor for both the conference and the ANJEE newsletters. John Shafranski made a **motion to approve \$1,000 to be contributed to ANJEE to offset costs for the conference and the newsletter**. John Kirk provided a second; the contribution was approved with no abstentions or opposition.

**Commission Membership and Nominations - Discussion and Results**

- Barbara Rich shared cc of **letter from Governor's Office** stating that they are reviewing her (re-application) to the commission and that she would be notified of her possible re-nomination, once a decision is made. (Tanya was not aware of the letters.)
- Tanya reviewed and discussed **the ballot** that she and Fletcher had compiled after a meeting this summer. It included potential nominations for some of the open positions on the commission that were received this spring or early summer (**school board rep and student**). Tanya received 14 completed ballots from commission members, either through e-mail or fax in advance of the meeting or through submission at the meeting, for these openings.
- **School Board Rep:** Of the 14, all agreed that Dr. Daniel Watts should be our first preference of the 3 sent to us from NJSBA.
- **Student:** Support for Peggy Healy (high school student) as well as Allison Gibson (college student). The order will remain the same.
- **Non-science Professional:** One application was obtained for this opening (Kayla Dove, Liberty Science Center). The group agreed to continue to solicit interested persons for this opening.

- Tanya also announced that Erin's slot is now open as well, with no candidates yet (**cultural institutions, such as museums or nature centers**). Suggestions from the group were encouraged.
- Dale made a suggestion for an education person at Newark Museum, for either opening. A 2<sup>nd</sup> suggestion was an education staff person from Stony Brook-Millstone Watershed Association; and a 3<sup>rd</sup> was an employee with the Weewonk Park Association in Newark. Tanya will pursue all of these. Kayla could be considered for Erin's opening though, which was also discussed.
- Tanya will submit the "approved" resumes to DEP to begin the appointments process.
- Marianne Evanko suggested that she will approach a person she knows at NJN to sit on the Interagency Work Group or to attend the meetings as an interested member of the public. She has held earlier positions in DOE and has a wealth of experience and familiarity with DOE staff and programs (as well as some media contacts). The group agreed with this pursuit.

#### **NJCEE/IWG Web Site – Update and Discussion**

- Marc reviewed the current "elements" that make up the Web site and where specific updates, additions or changes were made over the summer.
- He also discussed DEP's electronic "newsletter," *EE News*, and that it had become too long to be sent as an e-mail. He is now posting the contents of *EE News* as part of the commission Web site, with the hope of drawing new people to the site (who would learn about the commission). *EE News* reminders and "teasers" go out to interested persons twice monthly to an estimated 5,000 addresses. It is also circulated by other organizations to their members. The number of hits to the commission site (via *EE News*) has been on an increase this summer from 63 to 201.
- John Shafranski suggested that the *SEEDS* components listed at the bottom of the commission site be made more larger or obvious to the user since these sections in the *SEEDS* directory would most likely be appealing to visitors. Marc agreed to do.
- Anne Galli suggested that (at the NJCEE Web site) the Plan of Action button be moved up and the annual reports button be moved down (switched). Marc agreed to do.

#### **Environmental Primer – Update**

- Tanya described the editing and review steps underway in DEP in order to get clarity and agreement to the term descriptions. The design is ready and final edits are being incorporated. Due to the upcoming change in administration (McGreevey to Cody) there is also discussion that a small portion (or none at all) be printed with McGreevey's name on them, as DEP is ready to purge all information noting the soon-to-be former Governor, in mid-November. The final primer should be available in mass quantity in mid- to late November.

#### **Plan of Action Revisions Process – Update and Group Discussion**

- The committee did not meet this summer, as planned. Tanya put together a draft timeline and tasks that were based on the grant proposal and the original deadline of presenting a final plan to the Governor around Earth Day, 2005 (April 22). The group thought it was too aggressive and modified it. Joni suggested that the plan be presented to the new administration in 1/06.

- Tanya briefly discussed Ag's recent conservation education efforts, part of their agency's larger strategic planning efforts. Joni talked briefly about the Secretary's goals.
- Karen stressed that the revised Plan of Action should include strong recommendations for adult education and not just formal education (grades K-18).
- Barbara asked the group to consider what lessons can be learned from the past regarding our need for stable funds and the fact that we did not obtain them.
- The group expressed interest in securing private funds for the revisions process, in addition to what is currently available from commission funds. Suggestions included Dodge, Schumann, Victoria and the Fund for New Jersey.

**Guest Presentation: Global Learning, Inc. – Energy Education Project**

- Jeff Brown and Paula Gotsch (Global Learning, Inc.), gave the commission and work group an overview of, as well as an update on, their ongoing work on the energy education grant received by DEP from DCA.
- Global Learning, Inc. staff are developing a collection of energy education classroom resources (including solar energy as well as energy conservation and renewables) that can be used by NJ schools that are being constructed and that will have energy-friendly design and/or solar panels incorporated into the school structure. This resource will be available online to educators in early 2005 and a limited quantity of hard copies will be available. Their work includes research and review of existing resources; focus groups with teachers that conduct or wish to conduct energy education on what their needs and preferences are; workshops with teachers that will have access to solar panels and energy-friendly building designs; and, promotion and use of this resource.
- The goal of the project is to have faculty with energy resources in the school actually willing and able to integrate the technology into their curriculum and instruction. Many "core" or preferred lessons and projects will be correlated to state core curriculum standards.
- The role of the commission and work group is to act as advisors on this project. Information about the project, along with a resource list that has been compiled thus far, was distributed.
- Dale suggested that the solicitation for teachers/schools having or to have solar panels be sent out through ANJEE ONLINE. Dale also suggested that passive energy techniques be included so that energy conservation methods would go home with the students to parents.
- John Shafranski endorsed the idea because it typically isn't being done by schools. He liked their use of a concept map in the handouts.
- Karen and Jeff also discussed promoting the resource to teachers and students participating in the Tour de Sol, the Junior Solar Sprint as well as science fairs held throughout New Jersey.

**Final Remarks**

- Items tabled for the October meeting included the discussions on bi-laws and the ANJEE environmental education resource directory.
- The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.