

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group - AGENDA  
Friday, October 22, 2004  
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Public Hearing Room**

- 9:15 a.m. COFFEE, TEA and HALLOWEEN TREATS**
- 9:30 Opening Remarks** **Joni Elliott**  
**Tanya Oznowich**
- Welcome and introductions
  - Review of agenda
  - Request for new business items
  - Review/acceptance of September meeting notes
- 9:45 Updates and Discussion on Projects** **Group Members**
- **Commission and Work Group Membership** **Tanya Oznowich**
    - Update on related activities
  - ***Environmental Primer* Publication** **Tanya Oznowich**
    - Update on related activities
  - ***Plan of Action* Revisions Process** **Dale Rosselet**  
**And Committee**  
**Members**
    - Committee meeting - results
    - Conservation education plan – update
    - National EE plans currently available
- 10:45 BREAK**
- 11:00 Updates or Announcements about New Initiatives** **Group Members**
- **Commission Bi-Laws - Group Discussion** **Joni Elliott**
    - Should the commission have them?
    - Discuss examples of why/when this came up
    - If so, what issues/topics should they focus on?
    - Getting copies of existing bi-laws
  - **NJ EE Resource Directory – Group Discussion** **Tanya Oznowich**  
**Elizabeth Faircloth**
    - Overview of ANJEE project
    - Discussion regarding contents, design, etc.
- 11:30 a.m. Closing Remarks** **Joni Elliott**
- EE news to share by group members
  - Winter - spring meeting logistics
  - New business, if any
  - Meeting highlights and agenda items for next meeting
- 12:00 Noon DEPARTURE**

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education  
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Friday, October 22, 2004**

**NJCEE Attendees:** Rich Belcher, Marie Downes, Joni Elliott, Anne Galli, Tanya Oznowich, Dale Rosselet, Barry Schlegel, James Shissias, Karen Wintress

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

**Guests:** Peggy Healy and Helen Healy

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

- Joni Elliott, Chair, **reviewed the agenda**, conducted **introductions** and asked for **new business items** (none added).
- Peggy Healy (student nomination) attended the meeting with her mother Helen. Peggy provided a summary of her activities as her school's environmental club President.
- Dale Rosselet made **motion to accept the September meeting notes**; second was provided by Anne Galli; meeting notes were approved with no changes, abstentions or opposition.
- Tanya Oznowich reported that there was no movement regarding the resumes that were submitted for **commission openings**. However, Iris Duffield has agreed to serve as staff representative for the New Jersey Commission on Higher Education. Because she is a government representative she does not need to go through the appointments process. She plans to attend the November meeting and Tanya will meet with her prior to the meeting to provide Iris with background and history regarding the commission and work group. The appointments process will most likely be affected by the change in administration.
- ***Environmental Primer:*** Tanya reported that the primer is undergoing final edit by DEP communications staff. The graphic layout is done. It was determined by DEP not to print any with Governor McGreevey's name on it but to release it after Acting Governor Codey is in office. Bulk copies of the primer should be available at the ANJEE conference in January and then at subsequent spring and Earth Day environmental events for the public. Its year of publication will be changed from 2004 to 2005.
- ***Plan of Action Revisions Process:*** Dale Rosselet reported that the POA Committee had a successful meeting between our September and October commission and work group meetings. First, they divided up research responsibilities and are collecting samples of state master plans for EE that have recently been released in other states. They also contacted the EPA region II EE coordinator to discuss grant possibilities for this process. They are also reviewing the executive summaries for two national EE publications that have recently been released and that provide relevant support information for our new state plan. Finally, they will work with DEP to approach DEP facilitators to assist with implementing the POA revisions process. Dale request assistance from commission and work group members in beginning to assemble lists of key contact people for the various constituent groups who should participate in the writing process and/or public hearing process and/or focus groups. Comments were made regarding food costs (in grant proposals, try to minimize). The budget was approved which included costs for this process. The committee's next meeting will be held on November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m., at John Shafransky's school in Edison.

- **Draft Conservation Education Planning Process:** Rich Belcher provided a brief summary of this process, to date, along with status of the group’s current interests in possibly working with lead state environmental education organizations and individuals. Tanya, Elizabeth, Jim Shissias, Frank Gallagher and others have been active on this committee trying to bridge both efforts. Conservation education leaders will participate in a future commission meeting and discussion once the revised draft plan is OK’d by all original involved parties, for public comment. Jim provided additional comments stating that it is a slow and challenging initiative but should prove to be fruitful if the two interests could move forward together. Karen Wintress asked that both planning efforts maintain or emphasize strong participatory roles for industry in New Jersey. Joni stated this is one of the Secretary’s highest priorities.
- **Need for Bi-Laws for Commission:** This topic was added to the agenda because it arose in past commission discussions as a possible need, especially as they relate to commission membership guidelines. Such bi-laws for a commission could focus on membership, appointment specifics, attendance, membership/makeup, principles and general operations. After some discussion those present agreed that there is no need for bi-laws at this time but if this group is ever replaced by a new statute granting greater responsibility and support, then such bi-laws would be needed. At the same time, it was agreed that a “welcome letter” from the Chair to any new commission or work group member could contain information about expectations, roles, responsibilities, etc., of commission and work group members.
- **ANJEE EE Resource Directory:** Tanya provided an overview of a grant and publication idea conceived by ANJEE using grant funds received from Governor McGreevey’s office. The group wants to compile a comprehensive and easy-to-use hard copy resource directory that could later be available as an online EE directory, to be maintained by ANJEE volunteers. Commission comments were supportive in agreeing that it would be a useful and marketable product. One suggestion from Peggy Healy was to sell it through outdoor sporting goods and camping stores. Other suggestions included nature centers and libraries. Also, ANJEE should look into costs for having it be printed by Rutgers Press.
- **EE News – Roundtable Sharing:**

  - DEP/NJAS released new curriculum supplement entitled *Fishing for Answers*, which focuses on water quality, NPS and fish consumption in the Newark region; it is being promoted to teachers in that area currently and will eventually be available online (Dale);
  - DEP distributed (bimonthly) *EEedNews*, an online electronic newsletter featuring news in environmental education. The resource is promoted to about 5,000 e-mail addresses, currently, and is posted at the commission’s Web site in order to draw new interests to the site (Marc Rogoff);
  - EOHSI and UMDNJ have released a new curriculum supplement that focuses on dust and health issues stemming from the collapse of the World Trade Centers. It is designed for middle school use. Barry also talked about a federal grant EOHSI received to link home Internet use with online Web site resources, using a new software called “NPEG4” (Barry Schlegel);
  - Information about the ANJEE conference (2005) was distributed – Tanya will approach the ANJEE executive board about whether ANJEE will continue to cover costs for 1-day attendance for commission and work group members;
  - Marc promoted DEP’s GIS Day seminar and the new amphibians and reptiles packet; and
  - Joni provided meeting highlights and closed the meeting at 12:00 noon.