

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group - AGENDA
Tuesday, February 8, 2005
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Public Hearing Room**

9:15 a.m.	COFFEE AND TEA	
9:30	Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome and introductions • Review of agenda • Request for new business items • Review/acceptance of November meeting notes • Status of nominees in the appointments process 	Joni Elliott Tanya Oznovich
9:45	Updates and Discussion on Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ANJEE Conference 2005 – NJCEE “Presence” Exhibit and handouts NJCEE/IWG attendance Remarks presented by Chair Thank you to ANJEE from NJCEE Chair • <i>Environmental Primer</i> Publication January distribution Check on content Funds used/to be used Spring distribution and possible donation • Earth Day 2005 Activities Update on Earth Day Web site contents National Environmental Education Week Spring mailing to key constituents • Coordination with Youth Environmental Clubs Updating mailing list for youth clubs/to be shared Approach student member regarding project • NJCEE/IWG Web Site Update on contents of, and hits at, the NJCEE And IWG Web site 	Group Members Tanya Oznovich Joni Elliott Tanya Oznovich Tanya Oznovich Marc Rogoff Tanya Oznovich Marc Rogoff
10:45	BREAK <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Plan of Action</i> Revisions Process Update on committee activities Group discussion regarding POA revisions process May speaker from the E.J. Bloustein School 	Dale Rosselet Tanya Oznovich
11:15	New Business and Group Sharing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group application to NEEAP Institute • Distribution of national EE materials • Other new business items 	Group Members
11:45 a.m.	Wrap Up/Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Winter - spring meeting logistics • Meeting highlights and closing remarks 	Joni Elliott

**Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education
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MEETING NOTES – Page One**

NJCEE Attendees: Marie Downes, Iris Duffield, Fred Ellerbush, Joni Elliott, Anne Galli, John Kirk, Tanya Oznowich, Barbara Rich, Dale Rosselet, John Schiffranski, Barry Schlegel, Jim Shissias and Karen Wintress

IWG Attendees: Elizabeth Faircloth, Kyra Hoffmann, Marc Rogoff

Guests: Pat Skelly, Corky Johnson

Opening Remarks and General Discussion

- **Motion: *November meeting notes approved (D. Rosselet) and seconded (J. Kirk); all in favor.***
- No updates have been received from the Governors' office concerning new appointments.
- An e-mail will be distributed to the group concerning new information about the *Standards Alive!* project introduced at the last meeting by Leslie Parness – she was on vacation and contact could not be made with her regarding status.

Projects Updates

- **ANJEE Conference – Pat S.**
 - Summary of conference activities was provided
 - It was suggested that the keynote speaker at the ANJEE conference, Dr. Henry Horn, would be a good person to bring to the NJCEE as a guest speaker.

- ***New Jersey Environmental Primer – Tanya O.***
 - ANJEE Conference: 500 copies of the *New Jersey Environmental Primer* were distributed
 - Another larger printing is anticipated later in the spring
 - A donation of \$3,000 from the Commonwealth of New Jersey has been promised to cover the cost of printing. If this comes through, the same amount of commission funds will be held for a hard copy printing of the revised Plan of Action once it is finalized
 - Future recipients of the primer should include planning officials and environmental commission members – go through ANJEC and the NJ Chapter of the American Planning Association regarding promotion of it or distribution

- **Earth Day/Earth Week and National EE Week – Tanya O.**
 - April 22, 2005 is the 35th anniversary of Earth Day
 - Current national/international theme proposed by the Earth Day Network is “Protecting Our Children’s Health and Our Future”
 - NEETF has also declared the full 2nd week to be National Environmental Education Week – April 10 – 16, 2005; NJAS has already signed on as a partner to NEETF in NJ; it will also be proposed to ANJEE leadership at the next ANJEE board meeting
 - The U.N. also is declaring June 5, 2005, as World Environment Day by the United Nations Environmental Programme. The theme is “Green Cities: Plan for the Planet.” EPA is supporting the June theme for whatever it promotes during Earth Day
 - What should NJCEE support in NJ this year? Discussion included:
 - NJCEE could support both themes;
 - A proclamation could be proposed by NJCEE for the governor to sign supporting both events (EE Week/Earth Day and the June event);
 - The proclamation could be placed on the web site and a press release could be issued with a quote from Commissioner Campbell (pending DEP approval);

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- Debate followed as to the Earth Day Network theme and the focus of the Plan of Action. The commission agreed it will promote Earth Day through national EE Week but not the EDN theme;
 - Earth Day should also be promoted on the states' (NJ) home-page by linking to the DEP site - perhaps with the theme of EE – Awareness to Action;
 - DEP should pursue getting a proclamation to be signed by the Acting Governor;
 - Corky suggested promoting Earth Day through NJEA publications and other teacher resources, perhaps to include lesson plans that involve parents, links and standards (Mention of the Proclamation to be included);
 - Fred E., John S. and Karen W. all offered to review proclamation text;
 - Computer teachers and librarians should be notified of web-sites and links; and
 - A PSA should be explored for broadcast on NJN supporting Earth Day and NEEW.
- **Motion: (A. Galli) To support National EE Week in April through activities (D. Rosselet 2nd); all in favor.**
- Support for World Environment Day in June to be determined at a later date.
- **Motion: (F. Ellerbush) To promote the following 4 Earth Day items:**
- *Earth Day link on state homepage;*
 - *Article for publication;*
 - *Proclamation; and*
 - *PSA on public television (Galli 2nd); all in favor.*
- **Youth Environmental Clubs – Coordination – Tanya O.**
- DEP staff located the out-of-print YES directory for college and school environmental clubs. Labels were made from addresses listed in the directory. A mailing can go out to environmental clubs/groups to update this set of mailing labels and to create a “snap shot” of each club in terms of membership, purpose and activities. From this a listing online at either the SEEDS or ANJEE web-site could be maintained. At minimum, a current list of labels and activities for these clubs would be helpful to have.
 - This project would benefit with the assistance of the commissions' student representative and her classmates – She is waiting to get appointed.
 - Iris Duffield offered assistance – Tanya will contact Iris to discuss further.
 - Other club-related sources of information could be gathered through an article in the spring ANJEC report, e-mails to science teachers, & EedNews.
- **NJCEE Web-site – Marc R.**
- Marc reported on monthly statistics. The total hit rate for the months were:
 - November – 1,329; December – 727; and January – 1,196.
 - Additions and modifications to the web-site were discussed and include:
 - Banner/link on both the NJCEE and SEEDS homepage to the Earth Day site;
 - Redesign of the EEdNews page to make it more printer friendly;
 - Creation of subcategories (similar topics/themes) for EEdNews main-page; and
 - Linkable contents listing on the main page.
- **Plan of Action Revisions Process – Dale R.**
- Dale reported that Linda Dill, a part-time employee with NJAS will act as a part-time consultant for the POA revisions process. (The contract is ready to be signed.)

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- A meeting was held that included Dale, Tanya and other DEP employees (facilitator and focus group expertise) to help move the process along – a future meeting may follow. The committee will meet today at conclusion of this meeting.
- Three focus group meetings to be held in the spring. (North, Central and Southern).
 - Dates, sites and times are still being finalized
 - Evenings may be better than afternoons
 - NJCEE members encouraged to attend and assist with discussions
 - Focus group questions still to be drafted and shared with NJCEE members
- Public meetings for general public (not familiar wit EE) to be held in the fall.
- Revised/final POA will be completed in time for presentation to new governor in early 2006.
- Questions raised by focus group expert to be answered by NJCEE to further process:
 - Who are our targeted audiences?
 - What are our goals?
 - What is the purpose of the POA? Is this purpose measurable?
 - What can be put into the POA to track or gather feedback?
 - What will be achieved?
 - How can the POA be evaluated?
 - How will the POA be distributed?
 - How can its activities be tracked?
- Comments from NJCEE members – went around the room:
 - How effective has this plan been? What has been learned from these efforts?
 - We need clear answers. What is it? What is its purpose? Why read it? Who should read it? What is needed to implement it?
 - The POA must raise awareness, have a business perspective, act as a guidance tool for specific audiences;
 - It is a broad plan and tries to accomplish a lot; this is good but cannot become watered down, which can happen;
 - Should have strong focus on awareness;
 - Awareness is primary – keep it at primary levels;
 - POA should document validated EE as a statewide effort and give legitimacy to EE as being not just for students in school but for life-long learning;
 - Guidance and measurement are key; POA should raise awareness to change behavior;
 - POA should contain concrete measurable steps that should be taken to increase environmental awareness; a feedback system is needed;
 - POA should be a guideline of how to accomplish objectives of EE; it should contain concrete objectives and evaluation measures;
 - It should be a strategic planning document, what the commission wants EE to be and do over time;
 - POA should be a roadmap to show use of the environment to broaden awareness;
 - The purpose has not changed, it should be beyond what is going on in the schools, it should include techniques to improve the quality of life of all living things;
 - It should include measurable objectives and actions.
- Additional thoughts should be e-mailed to Dale.

New Business and Group Sharing – Group Members

- Mike Greenberg (research scientist/surveys) to speak to NJCEE at the May meeting
- Joni will be unable to attend the March 10th meeting – Vice Chair to conduct the meeting

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- Tanya, Elizabeth, Pat Skelly and Jerry Schierloh applied to attend a multi-day leadership clinic in June (NEEAP Institute in West Virginia); outcomes to help further EE delivery in NJ with focus on capacity building; will know in early March
 - Karen suggested getting George Hawkins as a speaker at a future NJCEE meeting
 - Dale described new EE center in Essex County that will be run in partnership with NJAS with county staff; to open around Earth Day
 - Barbara R. and Anne G. discussed local and environmental commission activities
 - Barry S. discussed new student editions national environmental health magazine that NJ/EOHSI is helping to develop – HS teachers are also helping to pilot work for magazine; three lessons are focused on – not available except to teachers in the pilot program but they are available at the Web site; Barry is helping to write the lessons
 - Barry S. also talked about EOHSI's new special Web site (N peg format) – videos, not using band width; parents can use and access at home... (to learn more about this as it progresses)
 - Corky shared her school activities and spring peace gardens and current work with NJEA
 - Fred talked about NJIT's recent training program on risk assessment that was held in Newark and run in partnership with EPA
 - Elizabeth described the 100th anniversary celebration of forestry in New Jersey
 - John S. talked about overseeing 60 science teachers in grades 6 – 12 and a new env. center in Edison that the schools will have access to (to learn more about this as it progresses)
 - Maria D. talked about a new Web site at the library and continuance of the environmental center as part of library activities
 - John K. shared details about his work with Trout Unlimited, Inc., to clean up waterways in NY and their interests in moving into NJ
 - Jim S. talked about his work with Coastal America and interests to raise funds to leverage federal funds through organizations and government for coastal projects; largest organization of this type in the country; first project is fish restoration in Batsto, a \$600,000 project with \$50,000 being put up by the organization
- **Handouts were distributed. These included:**
 - Making the Watershed Connection Conference flier
 - Earth Day Network announcement
 - World Environment Day announcement
 - National Environmental Education Week announcement,
 - EETAP Leadership Clinic announcement
 - Article by Michael Greenberg
 - *Environmental Health Perspectives* magazine and educational supplements (from Barry S).