

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA  
Tuesday, June 23, 2009  
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Public Hearing Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**

- 9:00 a.m. COFFEE AND TEA**
- 9:30 Opening Remarks/Business Items Dale Rosselet, Chair**
- Welcome and opening remarks
  - Group introductions
  - May meeting notes (draft)
  - Review agenda/new business items
  - Report on NJCEE/IWG web site activity **Marc Rogoff**
  - NJ Celebrate Afterschool campaign update **Tanya Oznovich**
  - Autumn meeting dates
  - Budget/account status
- 9:55- Federal Legislation Update Pat Skelly or Anne Galli**
- Update on *No Child Left Inside* Act activities
  - Report on National Environmental Education Act Appropriation and NEEA reauthorization
  - Update on University Sustainability Grants Program
- 10:15 Draft Call to Action Update Dale Rosselet**
- Status of draft plan pieces and web site contents
  - Timeframe for plan for public access
  - Update and interaction with NJ Dept. of Education **Tanya Oznovich**
  - Next steps
- 10:30 NJ Environmental Education Directory Tanya and Marc**
- What it is and why its in revised plan – overview
  - Discussion about its contents, users and development
- 10:50 BREAK**
- 11:05 Meet and Greet Session with DEP Acting Commissioner Mark Mauriello, Acting Commissioner**
- Moving commission and work group activities forward
  - Q/A and group discussion
- 11:25 Department Announcements and Priority Initiatives Marybeth Brenner, Director Office of Constituent Services**
- Governor’s Environmental Excellence awards program
  - NJ GHG emission reduction grants program
  - NJDEP Science Advisory Council announcement
- 11:45 a.m. Group sharing: Summer EE activities and announcements Dale Rosselet**
- Meeting wrap-up and closing remarks

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**Attendance:**

**NJCEE:** Tanya Oznowich, John Shafranski, Rich Belcher, Dale Rosselet, Haydee Perez-Livingston, Barbara Rich, Jim Shissias, Anne Galli, Marie Downes

**IWG:** Marc Rogoff, Elizabeth Faircloth, Laura Scatena, Joe Kociolek, Kyra Hoffmann, Ray Nichols

**Public/guests:** Pat Skelly, Mike Skelly, Carol Kelly, Dr. Sandra Alberti, Marybeth Brenner, Acting Commissioner Mark Mauriello

**Opening Remarks**

- Welcome and opening remarks
- Meeting dates to be sent out to group by email later this week. Next meetings: 9/24 and 10/20, 2009.
- Budget: We have had 2 accounts – discretionary funds – enforcement account was lost (~\$5,000), the Earth Day Education moneys were kept ~\$8,500 remaining. This is used for printing and administrative.

**Business Items and Updates**

- May meeting notes (draft) (No Quorum)
- Review agenda/new business items – small modifications made
- Report on NJCEE/IWG web site activity: 7,405 hits in May. CTA materials have been created and are ready to be posted when approval is given, including feedback form. We are seeking to purchase a new URL for the site that reflects the role of the commission. (NJCEE is already used – and does not mean anything to the general public.)
- NJ Celebrate Afterschool campaign update – NJSACC – week long activities in May – a great success! PSA's were released. Further activities to come – one more year of funding.

***Federal Legislation Update***

- Update on *No Child Left Inside* Act activities – National Environmental Education Act (NEEA) & University Sustainability Grants Program (USGP) looking for appropriations, a push to appropriate 14 million, Coalition has 1300 member organizations, letters of support to the house and senate – NEEA funds EPA EE and other non-formal EE programs across the country. USGP funds colleges and other higher education programs including pre-service teacher certification. NCLI – new bill (70 cosponsors in house, 15 in senate) has high support. Moving forward - representatives will be in NJ during the next few weeks, this is the time to contact their offices to seek their support as co-sponsors. (And thank the ones who have signed on already!) National DOE has shown support for EE – will be touring in the fall (will visit NJ – encouraged to visit Summerfield School). Please let Pat, Tanya or Anne know of any other sites to visit. See [www.anjee.net](http://www.anjee.net) for posted updates.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Green Buildings Grant – more information to follow

**NJ Environmental Education Directory**

- What it is and why it's in revised plan – overview – brief description made. It is in our draft plan – we will present more data in the fall.
- Discussion about its contents, users and development

***Draft Call to Action Update***

- Status of draft plan pieces and web site contents – copies were shared with NJCEE and DEP reviewers last month. Marybeth's comments were sent to Tanya. Comments from members were sent to Dale. These comments are being reviewed by the committee. (Please reach out to your constituents for comments.) Members will be notified when the draft is posted at the website. The draft will also be announced on The *EEedNews* for public comment.
- Timeframe for plan for public access – July/August (to reach formal educators it may be necessary to allow public comments to extend into September) Comments can be focused on implementation – steer it to the next phase. Reviewed and updated powerpoint and feedback form will be posted – announcement will include a list of what is needed from members of NJCEE. (A Living Document that will change over time!)

- Update and interaction with NJ Dept. of Education – DOE has used SurveyMonkey (for CCCS review). Mike suggested we look into LimeSurvey (HostMonster). DOE is actively conducting performance assessments, measuring students ability to draw on provided information and apply it. Many of these assessments focus on environmental issues. New HS graduation requirements – biology and physics/chemistry/environmental science. Place-based learning is also a focus. Getting kids engaged in science/civic actions – EE offers great opportunities for this. Long-term initiative: Nationally there are core standards (46 states/3 territories) announced last month. Science and Social studies will be a part of this program in the near future. Current NJ CCCS went from 10 to 4 standards. Collaboration between DOE and DEP. DOE needs a definition of EE/ESci – seeking NJCEE assistance. **Asset Map** – one central resource (like the EE directory) of providers.

#### **Meet and Greet Session with DEP Acting Commissioner**

- Moving commission and work group activities forward – offered his support, within budget and seeking our advice for how he can help, including monitor in lobby, DEP publications, etc.
- Q/A and group discussion – many opportunities here – especially with stimulus monies – what the funds are used for, how the money is spent, and how is it managed. Marybeth, Tanya and the Commissioner discussed the POA last week – he has indicated that he will work with Commissioner Davy and other Commissioners to support it. The Commission has in its mandate, to educate all Departments, constituents, EE providers, students and adults. Revenues from the auctions from RGGI carbon caps (shared by 3 agencies) forces them to communicate with each other – these funds are used for many projects that have educational aspects. Our plan includes educating the public about naturally functioning ecosystems that work for the public. There is a financial value to natural resources (DEP's Natural Capital Report). This data helps with adult education. This fall would be a very good time to have the Commissioners involvement in getting the word out about the Plan. (Perhaps a roll-out event/discussion) The legislature needs to have a briefing to let them know about the POA/NJCEE/EE. We are seeking the involvement of several agencies to contribute to the IWG.

#### **DEP Announcements and Priority Initiatives**

- Governor's Environmental Excellence Awards program – 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary – includes education and sustainability. NJCEE can help promote, see the website on handout distributed. Web link [HERE](#).
- NJ GHG emission reduction grants program – 20% of auction moneys go to DEP for these grants – local gov't agencies, municipalities and schools can participate. Pre-applications due by July 31, 2009. See last issue of *EEdNews* for links.
- NJDEP Science Advisory Board announcement – announcement coming out this week. Replaces NJDEP Division of Science & Research. Soliciting applicants. (Requirement: Advance degree in science) Submissions will be taken online during the summer.
- NJ Green button on Gov's website. NJCEE should take a look at this site (represents more than DEP) and offer advice. Comments can be sent to Marybeth.

#### **Group sharing: Summer EE activities and announcements**

- Meeting wrap-up and closing remarks – Next meeting Sept. 24, 2009. Electronic communications over the summer will continue.

Submitted by Marc Rogoff on 06/23/09