

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA
Thursday, June 24, 2010
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
DEP Headquarters
Public Hearing Room, 1st Floor
Trenton, New Jersey**

- 9:00 a.m. Coffee/tea and continental breakfast**
- 9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks**
- Welcome and introductions
 - **MOTION** to accept May meeting notes (draft)
 - Review agenda/new business items, if any
- Dale Rosselet,
Chair*
- 9:40 Call to Action - Committee Update**
- Status of Call to Action finalization and promotions
 - Review of “EE Success Stories” received
 - Comments about *Call to Action* promotions
- Dale Rosselet
Tanya Oznowich*
- 10:00 Remarks/Discussion with DEP Commissioner**
- Bob Martin, Commissioner*
- 10:20 NJ EE Week/Earth Day - Committee Update**
- Status of *NJ Environmental Primer*
- Tanya Oznowich*
- 10:25 NJ EE Leadership Forum – Committee Update**
- Purpose, functions and design of forum (draft plan)
 - Details, location, audience and logistics (draft logistics)
 - Next steps for committee (summer work tasks)
- Dale and Tanya
Group Members*
- 10:45 National and State EE/Education Updates**
- Federal EE related legislation update
 - *NJ Environmental Literacy Plan* Update (Dodge Application)
 - ANJEE updates – EE conference, leadership changes
- Pat Skelly/Anne Galli
Tanya Oznowich
Group Members*
- 10:55 BREAK**
- 11:10 Featured Speakers:**
- Tanya Oznowich*
- AQI Flags for Schools Program - NJ Plans***
- Derek Shendell, UMDNJ
Laura Scatena, DEP*
- 11:45 Updates and Announcements**
- Round robin sharing – Summer EE activities, including:
 - Update: NJAS’ Honeywell Institute
 - Update: DEP’s EETAP grant
- Group Members
Dale Rosselet
Tanya/Elizabeth*
- 11:55 a.m. Meeting Wrap Up**
- Logistics for September/autumn meetings
 - Keeping in touch over the summer/work to be done
 - Meeting highlights and closing remarks
- Dale Rosselet*

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group DRAFT NOTES
Thursday, June 24, 2010**

Attendance:

NJCEE: Tanya Oznowich, John Shafransky, Marie Downes, John Cussack, Anne Galli, Dale Rosselet, Rich Belcher, Barbara Rich, Jim Shissias, Bruce Barbour, Derek Shendell, DEP Commissioner Bob Martin

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

Public/Guests/Nominees: Mike Skelly, Pat Skelly, Marybeth Brenner, Rebecca Jordan

Opening Remarks

- Welcome and introductions, *Dale Rosselet*
- **MOTION to accept May meeting notes** (draft)
 - Ann – made motion to approve; Derek – 2nd motion; All approved
- **MOTION to accept March meeting notes** (John, Derek, all approved)
- Review agenda/new business items:
 - Suggestion to use new PSEG site visit for future NJCEE/IWG meeting and site tour (Jim); Tanya and Dale are scheduled to visit the center and tour the nuclear power plant

Call to Action - Committee Update

- **Call to Action** editing of final draft is in process and ideas for cover have been submitted.
- **Cover:** What do we want portrayed on the cover? People in action, working, i.e. installing a solar panel on a rooftop natural images, technology, diversity, but do not overdo it – composite images can be overwhelming. Tanya presented a drawing she created – had supportive response. Series of photos (not single and not collage). Should be basic. Not just kids – all ages represented and not just nature. Finding quality photos may be a challenge. An appeal to the members was presented to assemble images. Marybeth indicated that DEP will be reviewing the document after final editing is complete and the Commissioner will be briefed before he “signs off on it”. Current timeframe has distribution sometime in autumn. Copies of the distribution plan are available to members who did not attend the last NJCEE meeting. Mike S. suggested that we secure a time-slot at the NJEA conference in November for promotions. The committee will meet over the summer to work on promotions. Concerning images: parental permission is needed for photos that feature identifiable children. (Rules are still being determined.)
- **Funds:** Funds are available from DEP EE account (for commission) for small printing of plan.
- **EE Vignettes:** Review of “EE Success Stories” received...hand-outs of 3 distributed, awaiting others. Deadline for submissions extended till July 1, 2010. Final set, once approved, will be posted online. Examples include Environmental Stewards, Honeywell Institute/NJAS, Envirothon, Safe Schools, etc. These are to be used as examples of models and success stories for EE delivery – to demonstrate sound practice as well as diversity of EE programming that is available.
 - Other stories: Would like Jim to write a story on businesses and environment, ANJEC?
 - Submit photo or 2 with stories? Build library of photos; photos – DEP policy? Already public, should not be a problem; need to obtain clear guidance (always need a photo credit or permission from parents); Facebook is not public domain; need to verify permission for photos
 - Objective or goal for range of stories? First round, get as many as possible and then assess for gaps; strong representation for youth, educators
 - **Call to Action** committee to meet this summer (or autumn) to organize its plan for promotion

NJ EE Week/Earth Day - Committee Update

- Status of *NJ Environmental Primer*: New terms added were OK'd by DEP staff. The doc was not able to be printed last year, due to internal changes. Final version going to graphics for layout; must receive DEP review and approval before going to print. It will also be available electronically (for others to copy/print).
- \$7,000 is left in the EE account, to be split between CTA and primer (\$3,500 per publication).
- If it continues to be popular, supply will disappear quickly (est. #15,000 - #18,000). If more are needed for environmental education forum (or other EE function), another funding source may need to be pursued.

National and State EE/Education Updates

- Federal EE legislation update: Still moving forward, 122 sponsors in House; getting push for new members; 118 organizations in U.S.; Congress on break, if no action, then deferred until after election; still seeking to further organizational and individual membership. Contact Pat with any questions at Ee_advocacy@yahoo.com.
- *NJ Environmental Literacy Plan* Update (Dodge Application) grant was denied. Tanya read the reply from Dodge to group. Michelle (from Dodge) did meet with grant representatives from DEP, ANJEE and NJCEE (DOE by phone). If DOE had showed financial backing they would have approved but without passage of NCLI and/or a part of the elementary and secondary ed act, there's no teeth to the final plan. Dodge funds have decreased as well, due to economy. ANJEE can look into another funding source as a partner. Other partners can include teacher prep at Rutgers and other teacher college programs. Dale – a committee should be set up to pursue other partners/funding sources. This will include Pat, Tanya and Rebecca. John C. suggests seeking input from stores like Target, Walmart, Lowes, and others. NIH grant (Derek) – “environment” is not high on their study list so he does not recommend; other suggestions are being sought.

Remarks/Discussion with DEP Commissioner

Bob Martin, Commissioner

- DEP vision document will be presented to employees next week. A transformation plan (to bring vision and priorities to fruition) will also be released. DEP's Irene Kropp will be in charge of transformation process. How do we make DEP a better place and how do we help people? A customer service culture needs to be promoted to help solve problems and deal with them more quickly.
- Regulatory reform: 450 laws passed at State and Federal level in the last 15 years – created significant regulations; lost 20% of people in the last 15 years; simplify laws but does not mean less stringent standards but more straightforward, as much online as possible
- Environmental focus: License site professional program (LSRP) cleaning contaminated sites; clean drinking water (protect aquifers); protect oceans (in line with Gov.), against offshore drilling; more monitoring programs of all beaches (long term); green energy (offshore wind, legislation in next few days, national); electrical vehicle – next generation to cut air pollution, ozone, GHGs (need regional focus); parks and wildlife areas – keep all open, long term plan, incorporate self-funding and keep ability to have no or minimal fees
- Thanks for work on education initiatives; it's important to communicate education at different levels
- Future of boards and commissions in state – all will be under review by Governor; Commissioner will meet in mid-July w/Governor and will suggest that the work of this commission is continued
- Need to protect environment and help economic growth in the State
- Discussion of environmental education and regulatory challenges; can integrate the two to get things done
- Nuclear energy – under review; challenges recognized; working with BPU
- Sustainability issues: social/economic issues; getting agencies to work together; cooperation between businesses and agencies is growing and important
- Look forward to reviewing *A Call to Action*.

NJ EE Leadership Forum – Committee Update

- Purpose, functions and design of forum (draft plan): Need to set a date and establish basic logistics. March 2011 seems to be the best opportunity. Autumn is too near and is bad time due to beginning of school year and conventions. Spring is good, after *A Call to Action* has been announced and released (tent. At ANJEE conference in late January). Draft document about the forum was distributed.
- Details, location, audience and logistics (draft logistics): Trenton area has been suggested. Large group speakers needed – policy sharing to be a focus. Eco-Complex is another possibility. (\$300.00) Audience should be diverse, representatives who work with schools, not teachers, and less than 200 participants.
- Forum is for policy updates, research findings (if any), large-scale initiatives, future plans, and networking.
- Next steps for committee (summer work tasks): Conference call/phone mtg. to start on logistics.

Featured Speakers: *Derek Shendell, UMDNJ/Laura Scatena, DEP, AQI Flags for Schools Program - NJ Plans*

- Presentation, remarks and Q/A were conducted by both speakers
- Powerpoint presentation is available to members on request

Updates and Announcements

- Round robin sharing: The Projects (PLT, WET, WILD) are offering free workshops at Rider University
- DEP's Watershed Ambassadors Program (AmeriCorps) are continuing the program (next 3 years are funded). If you know someone interested in one of these positions – 20 slots are open for September. They get \$11,000 stipend and \$5000 on completion for further PD or payments towards college loans.
- Legislators will be touring sites to see EE in action – contact Pat if your organization should be visited.
- Office of Career and Technical Information – Green Collar Advisory Council: A 4-year plan of study in vocational setting starting in 2011. 9th grade class (science & sustainability) is being created. The NJCEE will have a rep from this group present at a future meeting. Tanya/Marc will keep group informed of this initiative.

Meeting Wrap Up

- Logistics for September/autumn meetings: Next meeting will be held at DEP on Sept 21, 2010
- Meeting highlights and closing remarks