

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA
Thursday, January 14, 2010
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Public Hearing Room, 1st Floor**

9:00 a.m. COFFEE and TEA

9:30 Opening Remarks/Business Items

- Welcome and opening remarks
- Introduction of group members
- MOTION to accept December meeting notes (draft)
- Review agenda/new business items, if any

*Dale Rosselet,
Chair*

9:45 Call to Action and NJCEE/IWG Membership Status

- Status of Governor's appointments to NJCEE
- Status of Cabinet level appointments to IWG
- Update on finalization of plan
- Meeting schedule for 2010 and spring plans for related activities
- Update on changes to the NJCEE/IWG web site contents

*Dale Rosselet and
Tanya Oznowich*

10:00 National and State EE/Education Updates

- EPA Region II EE grant proposal – ELP development (ANJEE)
- Updates from NJDOE regarding EE/science ed. interests
- ANJEE EE Conference Update
- Federal EE related legislation update

*Tanya Oznowich
Mike Heinz
Elizabeth Faircloth
Tanya Oznowich*

10:35 Earth Day/NJ Environmental Education Week

- 40th anniversary of Earth Day and EE Week – national themes
- Review of NJ web site contents/group discussion about changes to it
- Group discussion about using EE Week to promote CTA and EE initiatives
- *The NJ Environmental Primer*
- Formation of a committee

Tanya Oznowich

11:00 BREAK

11:10 Special EE Presentation

- *Rutherford Hall – The Past, Present and Future*
 - Using EE to Link Rutherford Hall and Mountain Villa School (Allamuchy Township School District)
 - Q/A and group discussion

*Patrice Maillet,
Director of
Rutherford Hall*

11:40 a.m. Meeting Wrap Up

- EE announcements from group
- Logistics for next meeting
- Meeting highlights and closing remarks
- Departure at noon

Dale Rosselet

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Thursday, January 14, 2010
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., Public Hearing Room, 1st Floor**

Attendance:

NJCEE: Tanya Oznowich, Iris Duffield, Barbara Rich, Dale Rosselet, John Shafransky, Mike Heinz, Marie Downes

IWG: Elizabeth Faircloth, Haydee Perez, Laura Scatena, Ray Nichols, Kyra Hoffmann

Public/guests/Nominees: Mike Chodroff, Joe Kociolek, Crystal Motlasz, Zachary Lewis, Neil McDonald, MaryBeth Brenner, Rebecca Jordan, Fields McDonald (Marie's husband)

Opening Remarks/Business Items

- Welcome and opening remarks – the May 12 meeting will be held at the Willow School
- Introduction of group members
- MOTION to accept December meeting notes (draft) – No quorum; request for any changes/additions (none); vote at a later meeting or electronically
- Review agenda/new business items, if any:
 - **MaryBeth** – New item – update on Transition process
 - Announcement of new commissioner, Bob Martin (on BPU transition team)
 - Mark's last day is noon on Tues.
 - No start date is known for the new Commissioner
 - Transition team met and created a draft report about the DEP to be given to Gov. Christie's transition team – that team will review reports of all depts.
 - Commission was in a section of the report and the plan was mentioned
 - No other appointments have been made
 - Commission is established under state law
 - Other commissions have already been reviewed for efficiency
 - DOE (Heidi) – similar process; new Commissioner; everyone else is still there, Bret Shundler is the new Commissioner of DOE

Call to Action and NJCEE/IWG Membership Status

- Status of Governor's appointments to NJCEE (Tanya, MaryBeth, Dale)
- Status of Cabinet level appointments to IWG
 - Current administration filling appointments to commissions not filled yet
 - This commission's appointments have not made yet but may have been in the last batch yesterday; MaryBeth will keep the commission updated/any appointees should contact Tanya if they receive a letter
 - Everybody currently on the commission needs to be reappointed
- **Dale** – Update on finalization of plan
 - Completed draft copy
 - Small group reviewed comments and incorporated as appropriate (Shorter but integrity was kept)
 - Release of final plan: Wait for the new Administration to settle in and reflects new priorities before going to the editor before going Final.
 - Next steps: Format to hard copy, website; introduce to Legislature and others; implement

National and State EE/Education Updates

- **Tanya** – EPA Region II EE grant proposal – ELP development (ANJEE)
 - Solicitation notice last year, \$32, 000, to create environmental literacy plan
 - NJ does not have a literacy plan but it is needed
 - Has to be administered by the DOE
 - Partnership with ANJEE and DEP with the DOE Office of Math and Science
 - Applications currently being reviewed; notification will occur in April
 - Included in the application, a concept to create an EE electronic directory (what NJ offers in terms of EE services); an online searchable database of resources
 - ANJEE is working on Phase 1 of the directory – will be posted on the ANJEE website
 - Marc will maintain the database
 - If the law is passed, states have 1 year to develop the plan
 - 21st century declared a 4th goal (handout provided at the meeting)
 - What is the difference between ‘.com’ v. ‘.org’? Any influence over Federal DOE?
 - ‘.com’ was established prior to the federal program; many federal people attend their workshops
 - Handout Pgs. 1-3: address skills
 - Handout Pg. 4 – an initiative under career and technical information (Nancy Trivett); piloting a new curriculum, CASE; strong natural resource component
- **Mike Heinz** – Updates from NJDOE regarding EE/science ed. Interests
 - Meeting with 5-7 env. science teachers to write the core for the HS science courses, minimum standards
 - National Lab Day – White House initiative
 - Traditionally, 1 day in May that professionally refurbishes high school labs
 - Presently, a clearinghouse for science/math professionals to link to schools in a meaningful way
 - Nationallabday.org
 - Fits into NJ goal to get the community involved with schools (all levels, ages)
 - Should incorporate into the Commission’s plan/actions
 - Information will be provided at the ANJEE conference, newsletter, and/or online
- **Elizabeth Faircloth** – ANJEE EE Conference Update
 - 200 people registered for Fri., 150 for Sat.
 - Open until Jan. 21; cannot do walk-ins
 - Key note presentation on Sat. – option to just attend for that presentation, \$10
 - Information available online, www.anjee.net
- **Dale** – Federal EE related legislation update
 - NCLI - See handout; the request is to help with the initiative, if your organization allows
 - Dale will submit a letter on behalf of the Commission
 - **Tanya** – State health initiative – ECCS; family fun
 - Creating a model that other states are looking at
 - Will be online in May
- **Tanya** – Rutgers study done on Env. Health training teachers (handout provided at the meeting)

Earth Day/NJ Environmental Education Week

- 40th anniversary of Earth Day and EE Week – national themes
- Formation of a committee for the forum and a separate committee for the EE Week/Earth Day
 - 3rd week in April
 - Proclamations usually occur – give about a month’s notice to the Governor’s office

- Goal: To make it an education-based initiative
- DEP anniv. date, as well
- Should use this opportunity to highlight NJCEE and the plan
- Review of NJ web site contents/group discussion about changes to it
 - NJ online calendar of activities
 - 2nd goal - talk to constituents about events in April so NJCEE can promote
 - Videos of kids doing activities, interactive online media, give examples to put on the website
- Group discussion about using EE Week to promote CTA and EE initiatives
 - Recommended actions for strengthening statewide structure and support for EE in New Jersey
 - The Commission's guiding document; agreed to put energy into
 - May or may not be the lead org.; will play a role in the actions
 - Action #10 – coordinating EE week and Earth Day activities
 - Action #3 – leadership forum for strategic planning, etc.
 - Jan., 25th EE conference
 - Include Actions #4 and #5 as part of a teacher's curriculum; have them implement; target science and art teachers
 - Include existing curriculum and projects
 - Top down and bottom up approach both need to happen but the bottom is already passionately involved and can influence the top
 - Showcase school page on the State page; Facebook page?
 - Mike Chodroff, Joey Kociolek, Zachary Lewis, Laura, Barbara – committee on recommendations for the next meeting
 - ANJEC supportive of a grassroots type approach and willing to work on these items
 - Link to these items to link to the State website
- Leadership Forum: Need a committee; law states that we need to do a global forum (did it once at the State House); would like to recreate it
 - How often? Requests were made for monthly and quarterly meetings
 - Promotional materials, media involvement
 - Will be on the Feb. agenda
 - Need natural resources professionals at the table
 - Committee – Rebecca Jordan

Special EE Presentation

- ***Rutherford Hall – The Past, Present and Future, Patrice Maillet, Director of Rutherford Hall***
 - Using EE to Link Rutherford Hall and Mountain Villa School (Allamuchy Township School District)
 - History of the property before the school was built
 - Highlands Act came into play
 - Partnership with Green Acres; Board contributed money
 - Came to be the Allamuchy State Park (Warren County)
 - Drawings of the school provided at the meeting; rooms available for use
 - Rutherford family remains to serve a major role
 - Outdoor classrooms
 - Community involvement
 - Senior citizens entrance
 - ADA compliance entrance
 - Solar panels on school (pre-K – 2)
 - Windmills on site
 - Both will be teaching tools

- Hydroplant for the mansion – will apply for a grant to renovate
- Enterprise Zone – that part of the building will be self-sufficient; no taxpayer dollars; any dollar raised over the cost of operations goes back to the community for tax relief
- Maintain historical integrity
- Maintain environmental integrity of the property
 - Imported vegetation from around the world
 - All construction done with this in mind
 - Want to be involved with the NCLI efforts
- Exit 19 off Route 80
- Create pilot programs there?
- Summer 2010 – pre-service program with for Env. Ed.
- Before and after-school care
- 2-day workshop
- Feb. 9, brainstorming session
- Q/A and group discussion
 - How to go about getting the word out to use these facilities? Want to be able to continue the relationship among different govt. agencies
 - Need to find ways to fund; get into some recurring funding opportunities
 - Overnights available? School will open in Feb.; it will be available later; outdoor housing may be available (tents, etc.)
 - Trying to explain to the community that the commerce will be increased by this; encourage visitors to stay at local hotels, eat at local restaurants, etc.
 - Goal is to have weddings on the weekends
 - Mansion could house about 100? Infrastructure exists.
 - 9,000 acres; altering the land by gardens, farms, etc. might be an option
 - The school is a LEED-certified building

Meeting Wrap Up

- Logistics for next meeting
 - Feb. 17, same time and place
- Email about the ANJEE conf. will go out this afternoon; tickets must be reserved even for the key note speaker
- Post-meeting for more discussion
- Formation of committees

Submitted by Laura Scatena on 1/20/10