

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
Public Hearing Room, Trenton
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

9:15 a.m. COFFEE and TEA

9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

- Welcome and introductions
- **MOTION** to accept February meeting notes (draft)
- Review agenda/new business items, if any

*Dale Rosselet,
Chair*

9:45 Call to Action and NJCEE/IWG Status

- Status of appointments
- Status of *Call to Action* finalization

Dale Rosselet

9:50 NJ EE Week/Earth Day Status

- Status of *NJ Environmental Primer*
- Status of NJ EE Week/Earth Day Web site
- Status of NJ EE Week and ED proclamations
- Status of use of Facebook for EE Week promotions
- Sampling of activities that are happening statewide

Tanya Oznowich

*Marc Rogoff
Tanya Oznowich
Mike Chodroff
Marc Rogoff*

10:05 National and State EE/Education Updates

- ANJEE leadership retreat summary
- Federal EE related legislation update
- NJ EE Directory update

*Elizabeth/Group
Pat Skelly or Tanya
Tanya Oznowich*

10:30 NJ EE Leadership Forum

- Purpose, functions and design of forum
- Details, location and logistics needed
- Attendees and participants
- Basic program needs, topics and invitations
- Next steps

*Dale and Tanya
Group*

11:00 BREAK

11:15 Updates and Announcements

- EE workshop at NJHEPS Sustainability Education Conf. (4/9)
- AQI Flags For Schools Prog./Air Quality Awareness Week Idea
- Round robin – group discussion

*Dale Rosselet
Pat Skelly
Laura Scatena*

11:45 a.m. Meeting Wrap Up

- Meeting highlights and closing remarks
- Logistics for May meeting (no meeting in April)

Dale Rosselet

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group DRAFT NOTES
Tuesday, March 23, 2010
7th Floor Large, Trenton
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Attendance:

NJCEE: Tanya Oznovich, John Shafransky, Rich Belcher, Dale Rosselet, Jim Shissias, Bruce Barbour, Derek Shendell

IWG: Marc Rogoff, Nicole Jackson, Elizabeth Faircloth, Laura Scatena

Public/guests/Nominees: Mike Skelly, Pat Skelly

Opening Remarks

- Welcome and introductions
- **MOTION** to accept February meeting notes (draft) No quorum
- Review agenda/new business items, if any – no new business

Call to Action and NJCEE/IWG Status

- Status of appointments - ongoing, new commissioner will be confirmed this week. Names will be submitted over next 2 weeks.
- Status of **Call to Action** finalization – copy editing is complete. (It still will need a cover. Jim suggested *Union Green*. Pat suggested that it should cover all aspects of life. Mike suggested it should show career opportunities. Elizabeth suggested asking Mandy at FREC.) A clean document will be presented to the commissioner after he has been confirmed. (Jim - How will it be promoted/publicity? John – how will it be printed? Dale stated that there will be several methods of promotion and Tanya stated that there is money to be used for the CTA and the primer. It will take time to have it printed. We need to determine who will receive it. We need to come up with a publicity and distribution plan. The CTA committee will work on this. Dale-Can we use an outside entity? Tanya-we have used others for the Primer, but this still needs to be determined.)

NJ EE Week/Earth Day Status

- Status of **NJ Environmental Primer** - comments have been submitted, several terms have been added (ex: Env. Literacy) and older items have been removed. A new Chair letter was added. It will go to print after review of two terms. It will not be available by Earth Day. It should be available in May. It still needs to go through Treasury. Several summer/fall events through October to be able to distribute copies
- **Status of NJ EE Week/Earth Day Web site** – high hit rate, many events listed, Receiving submissions from all over the state. Earth Day network still have events listed from last year. 800 hits on the calendar on NJ's site. Waiting for additional documents (Proclamations - in to the Commissioner this morning)
- **Status of NJ EE Week and ED proclamations** – went into the commissioner this morning.
- **Status of use of Facebook for EE Week promotions** – Mike Chodroff has been promoting the sites. He has contacted my different businesses and schools. Other venues include blog, promos, etc., group emails (reviewed groups targeted), Email contacts in an Excel spreadsheet – discussed options to add/expand/take ownership, *NJCEE does not have a contact database - should keep/update in the future. Suggestions for additional contact lists: ANJEC, League of Municipalities, Mayors list fax, Mike to send Mike an email regarding obtaining new information (weekly faxes) *Business association - Commerce and Industry Association; any to add to this group (Jim?); utilities (sewer, water, electric, gas)

National and State EE/Education Updates

- **ANJEE leadership retreat summary** -
 - *2 day event, 20-30 people
 - *NJ Conserve Wildlife Foundation - workshop on basics of fundraising with ANJEE in mind (25th anniv.)
 - *Each director left with a list of what to do; carried through to the Board meeting
 - *July 1 transition of the Board; will work on the budget
 - *Discussed Earth Day initiatives - do more to recognize 40th anniv.
 - *Renewed energy and enthusiasm
 - *Fundraising goal - paid staff to do
 - *All volunteer organization
- **Federal EE related legislation update**
- **NJ EE Directory update**

NJ EE Leadership Forum

- Purpose, functions and design of forum
- Details, location and logistics needed
- Attendees and participants
- Basic program needs, topics and invitations
- Next steps

- * In Environmental Literacy Plan and Plan to Action
- * Background - section of the Plan read

1. Goal - what could the Commission do in the fall?

- * **Consensus is that the Commission wants to do this**
- * **Discussion of what the goal of the meeting would actually be was discussed in depth:**
 - In the law, the purpose was different/unknown; learning about major env. issues and teaching about those issues
 - Tried to do it once; held at the State House in mid-90s
 - The State is lacking a time and place for env. supporters (formal and informal); are not talking about priorities, needs, etc.; one rep from each agency/org. (leadership roles)
 - The forum is tot enrichment, not training - what do people need? What is working, etc.
 - Mechanism to raise the profile of env. ed. in NJ; get media coverage
 - Economic crisis - how would this be viewed? Education component is first to get cut from programs
 - NJCEE will carry-out items from the forum
 - Plan of Action - chance to understand what the document is and what it does
 - Need to help people overcome EE seen as an add-on; needs to be a part of the other goals

2a. Specific Agenda Brainstorming Discussion (Leadership forum thoughts and ideas)

- * Who is the audience? How to make the Commission forum expanded?
- * Should be based on the goal (circular discussion)
- * Need to follow Plan of Action somewhat
- * Use Plan of Action as the agenda; use forum to role out plan; the theme would be "Environmental Literacy: A Call to Action"
- * Statewide capacity building priorities - how can these be delivered better?
- * Agenda items will vary from year to year
- * Videotaping possible - need to reiterate for message
- * Huge interest at NJEA - hold there? One session during the 2-day event?
- * Need a larger audience; should be 1-day event
- * What is the clear purpose? Environmentalism perceived as an obstacle

- * Use first forum as a way of reintroducing Commission; official meeting as a part of it (Commissioner to introduce)
- * Use the Math/science leadership content for a tract session (see last meeting discussion)
- * Federal initiatives - tying EE back into science classes, recess, and activity
- * Provide information on how to learn about topics - what is upcoming? What is going on in the state? How does it affect me in my organization?
- * Various tracts affecting various groups with goals/action items
- * Actions related to that track - ways of tying them into the action items in the Plan
- * Bring in broader group of stakeholders; better chance of getting the plan through

2b. Location

- * Invitations - central location? Most offices in Trenton/new designees; high level policy meeting
- * Submit proposal for NJEA session?
- * With ANJEE? Encourage directors to ANJEE conf.
- * Legislators don't usually leave Trenton area while in session (Mon. and Thurs.)
- * NJHEPS - Apr. 9 - 8-9 sessions each on a different aspect of EE
- * 2-3 locations rather than one location; better participation

3. Who can work on a committee?

- * John, Elizabeth, Pat, Laura - **extend to the rest of the group via email**

Updates and Announcements

EE workshop at NJHEPS Sustainability Education Conf. (4/9)

- AQI Flags For Schools Prog./Air Quality Awareness Week Idea
- Round robin – group discussion

Federal Updates

- * Education is newest priority
- * Goal of Admin. - revamp Elem. and 2nd Education Act
- * DOE blueprint was a description rather than bill (Env. Ed. was included)
- * House Committee held hearings, NCLI will be testifying
- * Requesting comments from stakeholders
- * Coalition asking each state affiliate and other state org. to send comments; Coalition will compile and present
- * Tanya wrote one from ANJEE, Dale from Audubon; all comments due Mar. 26th (NJCEE - Ann to write and send rather than Dale)
- * Contact state legislator - only 5 to cosponsor the NCLI Act; generally in favor of them (Rob Andrews, Donald Payne from Newark not signed on that did last time); Scott Garrett against; send thank you's to those who have signed on (to find, go to Thomas.gov, search this and prior sessions)
- * NEAA - letter circulated to get House Committee to consider entire \$14 million
- * **eeadvocacy@yahoo.com** (largest grassroots collaboration ever, not just env. advocacy); nclicoalition.org
- * **Marc to email copy of letter to Pat**

Updates and Announcements

Jim - PSEG launched energy and environment center in Salem

- * Converted 20,000 sq. ft. open to the public
- * Invitation to hold future commission meeting there
- * Hands-on exhibits
- * High-tech classrooms available

- * Community use of facility
- * All day - part of the day as a tour
- * ANJEE (South, Central, North) - committed to doing activities in their region
- * Special initiation to Commission members
- * LEED certified building
- * Website available?
- * Carpooling, central location to get everybody
- * **Schedule October 27th, determine logistics**

EE Directory/Green Jobs

- * based on vocational ed. programs (see handout)
- * Present at Willow School meeting (Tanya to request)
- * DOE and Dept. of Labor

Air Quality Awareness Week

- * Annual event, first week in May
- * Federal initiative between EPA and NOAA
- * NJ proclaims the week every year slightly modifying the theme for NJ's goals
- * Traditional outreach avenues plus EPA' Facebook, Twitter sites
- * Significant events may include a "Green Means Go...Outside" widget/campaign in conjunction with Parks and Forestry
- * AQI Flags for Schools Program – EPA mentioned the release of this program soon but not sure when; UMDNJ/NJDEP collaboration? It is a program for schools to raise a flag that indicates the air quality conditions for that day

EE workshop (Pat)

- * Long-term initiative (see handout)
- * Integrate into curriculum
- * Talk about Call to Action if attending
- * Posted on env. Ed. News

Meeting Wrap Up

- Meeting highlights and closing remarks
- Logistics for May meeting at the Willow School (no meeting in April) The commissioner may be able to attend the June meeting.

Submitted by Laura Scatena & Marc Rogoff on 3/25/2010