

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA
Tuesday, September 21, 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 condiments

9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

- Welcome and introductions
- **MOTION** to accept June meeting notes (draft)
- Review agenda/new business items, if any
- Sharing of summer EE activities

*Anne Galli,
Vice Chair*

Group Members

10:00 Call to Action - Committee Update

- Discussion regarding commission appointments
- Status of *Call to Action* finalization
- Review of EE vignettes received
- Update on select NJDOE activities (related to EE delivery)
- Update: *NJ Environmental Literacy Plan*

*Anne and Tanya
Anne Galli
Tanya Oznowich
Mike Heinz or Tanya
Tanya Oznowich*

10:20 NJ EE Week/Earth Day - Committee Update

- Status of *NJ Environmental Primer*

Tanya Oznowich

10:25 NJ EE Leadership Forum – Committee Update

- Status and review of forum plans (draft plan)
- Next steps (summer committee meeting was not held)

Tanya and Anne

10:35 National and State EE Update

- **Federal EE related legislation update**
- ANJEE update: EE conference

*Pat Skelly
Elizabeth Faircloth*

10:50 BREAK

11:00 Featured Speakers: DEP Technologies 4 Education

- *Introduction to NJ Geo-Web*
- *Update on the NJ Digital Library*

Seth Hackman, NJDEP

Paul Caris, NJDEP

11:50 Updates and Wrap Up

- Logistics and speaker for October meeting
- Meeting highlights and closing remarks

Anne Galli

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group DRAFT NOTES
Tuesday, September 21, 2010**

Attendance:

NJCEE: Tanya Oznowich, Marie Downes, Anne Galli, Mike Heinz, Iris Duffield, Barbara Rich, John Shafransky, Derek Shendell

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

Public/Guests/Nominees: Pat Skelly, Marybeth Brenner, Roberta Hunter, Paul Caris, Seth Hackman, Rebecca Jordan

Opening Remarks

- Welcome and introductions
- **MOTION** to accept June meeting notes (draft); No quorum - will do electronically
- Agenda accepted without changes or additions

- Sharing of summer EE activities (round robin group updates):
 - a. **Marie Downes:** Libraries' summer theme – water (Marie); Tanya suggested that the library association contact DEP and others (in advance) when the theme is related to science to collaborate on the message and take advantage of the opportunity to distribute materials, etc.; DEP did respond to info requests for water, from libraries during the summer.
 - b. **Elizabeth Faircloth:** Project Learning Tree received 2 grants for projects:
 - **EETAP** grant for advancing DEP's Learning Tree, Project Wet – a team of teachers, including Mike Heinz, worked to correlate activities to new core curriculum standards. www.teachnjenv.org
 - Project Learning Tree: Now in Year 3 of a national grant, *National Learn 'N Serve*, a service learning project for kids to implement PLT Green Schools. To be considered a green school, the school must adhere to criteria for energy, water conservation, air quality, recycling, waste and the students are conducting audits. Urban centers are the focus, Newark in particular was requested. Up to \$6000 to implement a green project at a middle or high school. Status – waiting to hear from the schools that were contacted to participate. Iris offered to provide support on Saturday's afterschool programs that could participate.
 - c. **Anne Galli:** Wetlands Institute fundraising auction – donations to support 5th graders from 1 school in Camden to now have the funds to take field trips to the center.
 - d. **Marybeth Brenner:** She will be leaving DEP to work at BPU. BPU is moving its Newark offices to Trenton. Her new position will involve planning activities for clean energy and NJ's energy master plan. The close of NJ's environmental excellence awards was Sept. 16. DEP received more applications than ever before, mostly in the sustainability category.
 - e. **Marc Rogoff:** Accepted an invitation to sit on the environmental advisory group (voluntary) for the National Wildlife Federation. This committee focuses on outdoor classrooms.

Call to Action - Committee Update

- Discussion regarding commission appointments (Anne and Tanya)
 - a. Nominees for the commission openings should have received letters (private citizens re-appointments and new appointments)
 - b. Representatives from government agencies will receive a letter from DEP Commissioner Martin (exchange of letters between Cabinet members); Tanya indicated she needs to update the letters for the current Administration); these will not be circulated in the immediate future

- c. Governor's Office completed the analysis of unnecessary councils and commissions and had publicized this list
- Status of *Call to Action* finalization (Anne and Tanya)
 - a. Draft is done and currently with DEP for review and design
 - b. NJ Audubon Society had a professional editor review the document
 - c. Action Items: (1) Determine how to support the Plan internally and externally – use other state actions as validation to those included in the Plan; (2) Complete references to the State's transition process and environmental priorities; (3) complete cover (need photos because the old logo will not be used – see previous meeting notes on images.) **If you have images, please send them to Marc and Tanya;** (4) cover letter from Dale (draft will be shared with group).
 - d. Timeline: Working to have a final draft to release at the Jan. ANJEE conference; or, March EE Leadership Forum; or, during April's Environmental Education Week
- Review of EE vignettes received (Tanya and Marc)
 - a. Marc is currently editing those received to make consistent and shorter – **anyone that would like to help should contact Marc.**
 - b. Topics received include SEEDS, Watershed Ambassadors, Envirothon, Science Olympiad, Env. Congress, Safe Schools, Honeywell Institute
 - c. Vignettes not included that were sent – Duke Farms (John), FREC (Elizabeth), Sustainable Jersey (Laura), Reclaim the Bay (Karen M.); Marc will locate and add these to his list
 - d. Tanya provided an overview of the purpose of the vignettes (see previous meeting notes)
 - e. Success stories (vignettes) will be posted online only (in PDFs) and available as a compiled document or in sections.
- **Update on select NJDOE activities (related to EE delivery)** (Mike Heinz)
 - a. Defining the course details/outline of core science courses (including courses for earth science and earth science) – first time that DOE is doing this
 - Est. time of completion – NJ Science Convention in October
 - Determining how to show inclusion of applicability of env. science content; boundaries are being blurred across all courses (EE incorporated into Life Science/Biology, physical science, chemistry and Earth Systems Science.)
 - b. Career and Tech Ed (Vocational Schools): NJDOE received a federal grant to work with vocational/technical schools on career paths for green collar jobs in 3 key areas, i.e., construction, architecture, and energy efficiency. Specific paths will be available starting in the 9th grade. The program is called Science and Sustainability. This will be offered as a lab class to all schools.
Mike - The DOE will be offering upcoming Webinars on the 21st Century skills initiative.
- Update: *NJ Environmental Literacy Plan* (Tanya)
 - a. No plan but 2 failed grant attempts; trying to get funds to hire someone to implement a plan
 - b. ANJEE and DOE will revise the proposal; will apply for next round of EPA environmental education funds; Tanya learned that ELPs will continue to be a priority for their next round
 - c. P21 initiative at DOE – trying to integrate skills rather than add-on

NJ EE Week/Earth Day - Committee Update

- Status of *NJ Environmental Primer* (Tanya)
 - a. Almost completed; will send to printer in Jan. for Feb./Spring distribution; awaiting internal approvals in DEP
 - b. Group must begin to discuss plans for 2011 Environmental Education Week

NJ EE Leadership Forum – Committee Update (Tanya)

- Status and review of forum plans (draft plan)
 - a. Summer committee meeting was not held (POA completion was the focus)
 - b. Ray and Tanya were trained to host web-meetings with “*Call-To-Meetings*” and Webinar’s
 - c. Group will meet electronically before the October commission/work group meeting
 - d. Meeting results will be shared at the Oct. meeting
 - e. Forum planned for March

National and State EE Updates

- **Federal EE related legislation update (Pat Skelly)**
 - a. Not much action (see previous notes for overview of pending legislation) – NCLI legislation has changed its emphasis due to the fact that ESEA has expired. The new focus is to put the language into the new core bill. It is still important to get the word out and increase sponsorship. Both NJ senators and 7 congressmen are co-sponsors.
 - b. NCLI – still need to be proactive about getting NJ Congressmen to support the bill (no commitments from the following districts: 3rd, 4th, 5th, 7th, 8th, 11th)
 - c. Every contact is important as they don’t receive much contact (1-3 people infers an important issue)
 - d. *NJ’s Outdoor Bill of Rights* – produced by NJ Audubon and ANJEE (see handout)
 - Resolution ties environmental education to all subjects and highlights the benefits of being outdoors for children and people of all ages
 - More discussion about advancing the resolution will occur at the October meeting (Kelly from NJAS and Dale to explain)
 - Derek: missing items in the resolution include air quality benefits and the use of school playgrounds. Need to be prepared to answer questions about specific items not mentioned and to have good arguments for why certain items are included.
- **ANJEE update: EE conference**
 - a. Visit www.anjee.net to view the call for proposals. Being a presenter is the cheapest way to attend the conference; please help circulate to staff, faculty, members, visitors, volunteers, etc.
 - b. The 26th theme is “*The World is our Classroom*”. Deadline for submissions is October 15th, 2010. Awards deadline is October 30th.
- **NJ AQI Flag Program Update (Derek and Laura)**
 - a. See previous notes for background and presentation on the program
 - b. DEP Air Management approved the idea of the program; ok to move forward
 - c. Working with a regional organization on funding opportunities (delayed due to scheduling conflicts). Still planning for spring implementation.
 - d. Question from Anne about policy actions taken due to the implementation of a program - significant actions have resulted from implementing a program such as laws, regulations, and community programs. It is one of many tools to create policies. Other tools include scientific studies, advocacy groups, etc. (Derek)

Featured Speakers: DEP Technologies for Education

- **Introduction to NJ Geo-Web (Seth Hackman, NJDEP)**
 - a. New version of i-Map is now called NJ Geo-Web. Version 2 is now online.
 - b. Workshops are offered for the public on this application, next one in October.

- c. Updates include historical images, water monitoring, geology, tideland, etc. Includes a layer of NJEMS sites. DATAMINER can then be used to find any specific site in the state. All information on this site fulfills OPRA requirements.
 - d. Map sharing is available; Mark-up tools available; Future enhancements are anticipated
 - e. Public trainings are available – see schedule online
 - f. Tanya requested a separate training session for the Commission in the Spring. 1.5 hour session after a meeting. Meeting attendees were interested in participating.
 - g. Seth is available to do training anywhere in the State
 - h. Derek suggested/requested training at UMDNJ for students
 - i. Tutorial link: www.nj.gov/dep/gis/geowebtutor.htm
 - j. Public training: www.nj.gov/dep/gis/trainingmap.htm
 - k. Thursday pre-conference workshop as part of ANJEE conference is possible
 - l. GIS staff are available to travel throughout the state to conduct workshops
 - m. Contact Seth.Hackman@dep.state.nj.us
- ***Update on the NJ Digital Library***
 - a. www.nj.gov/dep/opra or contact Paul.Caris@dep.state.nj.us for information.
 - b. NJDL offers access to government online catalog of documents on NJ's environment
 - c. It is a catalog of environmental organizations, slide shows, videos, pamphlets, maps, user-generated collections and preservation of grey literature.
 - d. NJDL will become part of **RUcore** at Rutgers and will feature a map portal. (*Go home and play with these sites.*)

Updates and Wrap Up (Anne Galli)

- a. Next meeting: Wednesday October 27th 2010
- b. Speakers: Winnie Fatton in October and Stacey Kennealy (Greenfaith) in December
- c. Group is not meeting in November (instead, late October and early November)
- d. Parting announcements:
 - Ray – Project WET workshops and updates online at WET web site
 - DEP's WILD Outdoor EXPO will be held this coming weekend