

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA**

Tuesday, December 7, 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 October meeting notes (draft)
- Review agenda/new business items, if any

*Dale Rosselet,
Chair*

9:45 National and State EE Updates

- NCLI Act and coalition update
- Moving Outdoors in Nature Act/NJ Children's BOR – update
- EPA EE grant opportunity and NJELP application – update
- ANJEE update: EE conference and awards - update
- ANJEE update: EE/Sus. Ed. grant opportunity
- ANJEE update: 25-year anniversary plans

*Pat Skelly or Anne Galli
Dale Rosselet
Tanya Oznowich
Elizabeth Faircloth
Roberta Hunter
Tanya Oznowich*

10:30 Call to Action - Committee Update

- Status of A *Call to Action* plan, appointments and web site

Dale Rosselet

10:35 NJ EE Week – Committee Update

- Status of potential NJ EE Week activities and Web site updates

Tanya Oznowich

10:40 NJ EE Leadership Forum – Committee Update

- Update on committee discussion and recommendations
- Group discussion and next steps

*John Shafransky
Dale Rosselet*

11:00 BREAK

11:00 Featured Presentation: *Greenfaith*

- Purpose, history and overview of Greenfaith
- Education efforts – what is offered and future plans
- Group discussion and Q/A

*Stacey Kennealy,
Director,
Certification Program
And Sustainability*

11:40 Updates and Wrap Up

- Meeting highlights
- Round-robin group sharing (if time) of winter EE initiatives
- 2011 meeting schedule and EE conference reminder
- Wrap up and departure

Dale Rosselet

Happy and Healthy Holidays to All!

**Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group DRAFT NOTES
Tuesday, December 7, 2010**

Attendance:

NJCEE: Tanya Oznowich, Rich Belcher, Dale Rosselet, John Shafranski, Jim Shissias, Anne Galli, Stacey Kennealy, John Lysko, Rich Belcher, Bruce Barbour, Derek Shendell

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

Public/Guests/Nominees: Mike Chodroff, Pat Skelly,

- Welcome and introductions
- **MOTION** to accept October meeting notes (draft)
Done but with change of Bruce Barbour to Nominees; need to ensure attendance is correct; other meeting notes outstanding were moved to be accepted as well
Motion to accept: October and other pending notes, 1st; Anne, 2nd John L
- Review agenda/new business items, if any

National and State EE Updates

- NCLI Act and coalition update
Pat - No action expected in next few weeks. Coalition is asking for supporters to thank legislative sponsors. Approaching 2000 orgs – have your group sign on if they have not yet. (insert link here)
Current efforts include contacting more grassroots organizations, individual schools, PTAs, industry groups, etc.
The Board of Education needs to approve participation in effort before school districts can make a commitment
Discussion about having the NJCEE send a letter electronically, maybe 50 mailed letters, drafted by Anne and Pat to the contact lists used to communicate the *Call to Action* Plan (see further discussion below)
GreenFaith will sign on and contact its constituents to do the same
Dale – Would a letter from the commission to interest groups encourage them to sign on?
Mike – Would a computer terminal at the ANJEE conf. be set up for signing up?
Dale – Could Anne draft a letter?
John L. – A letter to PTA's, and teacher associations/Board of Educations.
List of member groups: www.cbf.org/Page.aspx?pid=956
Pat – EE Act is moving forward. More moneys included than in the past.
- Moving Outdoors in Nature Act(MONA)/Outdoors Alliance for Kids(OAK)/NJ Children's BOR
Dale – “OAK/MONA” just introduced last month. This act focuses on informal education aspects of getting kids outside. Bill supporters are also looking for groups/individuals to sign on. This bill will also provide money for infrastructure, i.e. trails, municipalities, etc. States need to prepare strategies for eligibility.
 - Suggestion to connect outreach efforts to physical activity and groups that encourage physical health
 - Willow School – has connection to the Jets
 - National ally would be helpful – bicycling orgs., industry assn's
 - NCLI v OAK – NCLI – classrooms, preK-12; OAK – families and children; informal
 - 2 parallel acts – some might pay more attention to one or the other
 - Need to submit a plan to receive funds
 - If they are passed, work as a coalition rather than duplicate efforts. Other states have collaborated to make money go as far as possible; strategies will be peer-reviewed.
 - Passive v. active recreation; NJ has received significant amount of funding for trails already

- 4 areas that are rich to receive funding in NJ regarding Green careers
- Federal sustainability conference – more political that it should be; proceedings available on website; specifically references NJ for green career path for HS vocational education; don't know the source of money
- NCLI – money available and will be disseminated
- OAK/MONA – funding source unknown; have bipartisan support; cosponsors are ready but not actively pushing or rejecting
- Anne – Motion to accept NJCEE to sign on; already signed onto NCLI – deferred to Jan. meeting
- Need to determine: 1) source of funding and 2) NJCEE allowed to support legislation and lobby – so many things legislation doesn't state; generic issue – Commissions can be in support of legislation? Can share information rather than encouraging action. These questions will be investigated and reported in Jan. to make a decision.
Dale – Can the commission sign on here as well?
Tanya – We should first see where the money is appropriated from.
Kyra – Can this be connected to physical activity initiatives? (Ex: Play 60 and others)
Pat – *National Wildlife Federation* is leading the OAK initiative. I will help make those connections.
Bruce – Bicycle/outdoor recreation groups would be good contacts.
Dale – BOR – NJ Audubon reintroduced resolution to state assembly and senate.

- NJ Children's Bill of Rights
 - Awareness building piece; see handout
 - Call to Action has this built in
 - Reintroducing to Senate and Assembly at the same time; Sandra Cunningham (D), looking for Republican
 - Still standing as the Assembly resolution
- EPA EE grant opportunity and NJELP application – update
Tanya – Solicitations go out on Dec. 21, 2010. This will provide moneys for the NJ Environmental Literacy Plan. DOE will sign on as support; letter to be sent from ANJEE; tied to NCLI and part of Call to Action; still a priority to encourage literacy planning; Several employees have left DOE and there are still positions not filled; to think about for Jan./Feb.
- ANJEE update: EE conference and awards - update
Elizabeth (& Mike) – registration is open (early bird till Dec 25, 2010) Over 50 presentations offered; assigning to timeslots; sampling online. www.anjee.net
New sponsors have signed on. Requests help for getting sponsors; letter online – connected to local businesses?
Awards deadline extended until Dec. 8th, 2010.
Conference will be held January 27–29, 2011 at the Princeton Wyndham Conference Center in Plainsboro.
 - NAAEE award winner will be at the conference
 - Authors' Corner – forum online; book signing; authors being organized
 - Student Showcase – solicit for students' work related the theme, “The World is Our Classroom.”
- ANJEE update: EE/Sus. Ed. grant opportunity
 - Received money from PSEG Foundation – to give to educators for sustainability education; granting agency for the next 2 years; PALS – described online; looking to fill a grant manager position; promotes formal and nonformal education
 - NJ GIS GeoWeb training – DEP is sponsoring this workshop

- ANJEE update: 25-year anniversary plans – 2011 is 25 years as an official organization. Looking to set up ongoing activities that will raise moneys for the Alliance that will allow it to sustain itself.

Call to Action - Committee Update

- Status of *A Call to Action* plan, appointments and web site
 - Finalizing letter from Dale to appear at the beginning
 - Drafting speaking notes for the Commissioner; small group to present Plan and request support
 - Remaining pieces done by Jan.; Final by late Jan./Feb.
 - Will also meet with DOE with same information.
 - Appointments – need to complete survey. *Members or prospective members of the commission are encouraged to contact the Governors office to check on the status of their appointments.*

NJ EE Week – Committee Update

- Status of potential NJ EE Week activities and Web site updates (Tabled till next meeting)

NJ EE Leadership Forum – Committee Update

- Update on committee discussion and recommendations
 - Small group started to discuss framework of forum; reviewed document
- Group discussion and next steps
 - Conference call earlier in Dec.; time and place becomes critical situation – consensus – no date confirmed; central NJ reasonable – all TBD
 - Themes of forum: Coordinate to Call to Action and use as a base; NJ's role in organizations represented – their role to achieve Call to Action; 150-200 people
 - Forum – Plenary session in AM; PM – focused on actions from organizations
 - Panel in AM on Formal education – env. content stds., Panel in PM on partnerships, how to leverage resources, etc.
 - Does the NJCEE need funding? Charge a fee for attending? Doesn't need much money; partner that can provide funding? Should have a nominal entrance fee to get a commitment
 - Need to see the connection to the Federal programs; how NJ actions complement other actions
 - Need tangible actions, e.g., invasive species management plan for NJ – recommendations given to Gov. but no action yet and NJ is only mid-Atlantic state to not have one; need to take advantage of having env. leaders together; could be part of a larger group
 - Possible to have break-out groups; community partners, health providers, foundations that provide funding for programs and projects
 - Invasive Species Council – still exists?
 - Other theme – how to implement EE on large scale?
 - Restoration of ecosystems on the same scale as recycling program efforts; serves as an example; how to launch an env. ed. Campaign
 - Need to have commitment of Commission members to ensure this happens
 - Bring meetings to people around the state – need to have a way that people will be actively discussing and participating – difficult to commit any further time beyond the forum; project for HS and college students – internships? Deadline
 - Committee needs to reconvene and consider discussions at the meeting
 - John S., Elizabeth, Pat, Laura, Anne, Tanya, Derek – charge group to come back to Jan. meeting with more ideas

Featured Presentation: *Greenfaith*

Stacey Kennealy, Director, Certification Program And Sustainability

- Presentation will be available online
- Purpose, history and overview of Greenfaith
- Mission – to promote leadership from all faiths in environmental actions
- Based in New Brunswick, soon moving to Highland Park, but work on a national level
- Collaborated with the GreenFlag/GreenFaith program in VA in the beginning
- Focus has changed over the years from awareness and importance of the environment to leadership roles and taking action
- Core values include Spirit, Stewardship (Focus), and Justice (*details in presentation*)
- Education efforts – what is offered and future plans
- 2 programs: Fellowship (2 year program for organizations similar to LEED) and Certification (specifically for religious leaders, 18 month program)
- Future efforts: Partnerships, curriculum development for religious leader education
- Group discussion and Q/A
- Do not foresee a chapter organization in the future
- See fundamentalist groups changing perspectives
- Email listserv available to receive announcements of webinars, etc.

Updates and Wrap Up

- Meeting highlights
- Round-robin group sharing of winter EE initiatives
 - These items can be sent to Marc for inclusion in the EEd Newsletter
 - Total Lunar Eclipse, Dec. 20-21
 - Safe Schools update – will send newsletter to NJCEE
 - Free online tools available for Green Schools
 - Bordentown won award for the most points earned in the Sustainable Jersey program; very influential tool; powerful way to reach people; town is now looking to do more environmental efforts
 - UMDNJ submitted Flag Program proposal to the Dodge Foundation
 - DEP and DVRPC working on Southern NJ Flag Program pilot launch; moving forward with program development
 - Mar. 22 meeting will be in Salem County at the PSEG facility
- 2011 meeting schedule and EE conference reminder
- Wrap up and departure
- ***Next meeting: Jan 18th, 2011***