Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education  
And Interagency Work Group AGENDA  
Wednesday, June 12, 2013  
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
5th Floor Large Conference Room  
DEP Headquarters, Trenton, New Jersey

9:30 a.m.  OPENING REMARKS
- Welcome and introductions  
  Dale Rosselet, Chair
- Review agenda/new business items, if any
- Discuss/approve draft March meeting notes

9:40 a.m.  Status of Commission Appointments  
Dale Rosselet
- Discussion RE: communications with appointments staff
- Review of draft letter and personalization
- Discussion RE: submissions of letters, related details/process and follow-up

10:00 a.m.  NJELP Work Group – Update (CTA Action #1)  
Dale, Mike and Tanya
- Update on state NJ Environmental Literacy Plan activity, including:
  Update on ELP meetings with NJDOE and related ELP requirements  
  Dale or Mike Heinz
  Tanya Oznowich
  Mike Skelly
- Update on ELP content pieces  
  Tanya Oznowich
- Update on ELP database and website  
  Mike Skelly
- Update on funding request #2 for ELP funds  
  Tanya Oznowich
- 2013 timeframe and plans, and summer activities  
  Dale and Tanya

10:20 a.m.  NJ Earth Day/Environmental Education Week 2013  
Tanya and Marc
- Summary of EE Week, Earth Day and Earth Week activities
- Discussion RE: lessons learned and ideas for 2014

10:30 a.m.  BREAK

10:45 a.m.  Growing the NJ Kids and Nature Network (CTA Action #2)  
Dale Rosselet
- Update on the NJ Outdoor Bill of Rights for 2013
- Activities planned for 2013 and who is currently involved
- Small groups or group discussion: What can individuals and the groups we represent do to help?
- Summarize group input and devise action plan

11:15 a.m.  General EE Updates and Spring/Summer EE Efforts
- National EE/NAAEE update  
  Pat and Mike Skelly
- U.S./NJ Green Ribbon Schools Program Update  
  Carol James or Tanya
- Eco-schools/Sustainable Jersey  
  Donna Drewes or Dale
- NJSBA Workshop-EE/Green School Activities  
  John Henry or Tanya
- NJ Sustainable Schools Conference Summary  
  Carol James or Marc
- NJ School to Farm Conference Summary  
  Marc Rogoff
- Envirothon 2013 Summary  
  Rich Belcher or Marc
• NAAEE conference highlights  
  Tanya Oznowich

• ANJEE updates – conference, awards, strategic plan  
  Danni, Dale and Pat

• Other EE announcements and updates  
  Group members

11:55 a.m.  CLOSING REMARKS & DEPARTURE

• Meeting highlights and closing remarks  
  Dale Rosselet

• Autumn meeting schedule

• Departure
Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on Environmental Education
And Interagency Work Group NOTES
Wednesday, June 12, 2013
9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
5th Floor Large Conference Room
DEP Headquarters, Trenton, New Jersey

OPENING REMARKS
NJCEE: Jim Shissias, Rich Belcher, John Shafranski, Stacey Kenneally, Donna Drewes, Sharon Sherman, Tanya Oznowich, Dale Rosselet, Marie Downes, Anne Galli, Derek Shendell, Dani Logue, Rebecca Jordan
IWG: Kyra Hoffmann, Marc Rogoff
PUBLIC: Mike and Pat Skelly, Wes Brooks

MEETING NOTES: Derek moved to post notes, John 2nd, all in favor. All prior notes to be posted to the website.

Derek suggested meeting once a quarter – Sept/Nov/Feb/March/June
Dale – discussion to be followed to determine date options.
Smaller meetings or conference calls can still be done if needed.
To be started in the fall.

WEBSITE REPORT: Shared numbers and (site on screen) pointed out sections and needs. Hit-rate increased during April along with Earth Day interest. See document for full data.

Status of Commission Appointments
- Members asked to draft letters to appointments office (customizable form letter and list of legislators to be sent out to members) to be sent to Governor’s office. Timing to be determined. Appointments are awaiting approvals from the Governor’s office. Pat asked when the last series of appointments occurred. (Corzine administration) Tanya pointed out 2014 is the 25th anniversary of the commission. The letter should include accomplishments of the commission and recognition of the 25th anniversary. Originally signed by Governor Kean with the commissioners of both DEP and DOE.
- The members list needs to be updated. Reclassify members who are no longer appointed to the list to either friends or advisors. Public relations would really be helpful!
- 25th anniversary committee could be created. 25 year timeline and activities list should be added to website. Should we look to assistance from Tom Kean’s son (member of assembly)? Need a champion to help tout the accomplishments. Pat – the more the NJCEE shines, and it should – NJ has had the commission for 25 years while other states are mimicking us only now, the more it will focus public attention on EE and environmental advocacy. Derek suggested using other groups or grad students to partner with – ANJEE, colleges, clubs.
- Many events in the past have gotten grants due to their association with the NJCEE.
- Co-sponsoring existing EE events would be a great way to spread our name.

NJELP Work Group – Update (CTA Action #1)
- The Call To Action is alive and well and being folded into the ELP. The DEP and DOE are more supportive of this. The workgroup will be meeting later this afternoon to work on the timeline.
• Documents handed out (see links). NJ is one of 48 states working on their ELP’s. About 25 states have completed theirs. Pat used the term “Pre-K to Grey” to show education for public, communities, and schools.

• Mike – correlations to standards and guidelines. 9 different standards adopted by NJ, NAAEE standards and Federal standards all utilized. NJ has created a database (unlike other states), that includes lessons, activities and other assessment points for teachers. The database will be beyond a correlation, but will include concepts that will bridge formal and non-formal educators as well as cross-curricular education throughout the state. The site will be housed on the ANJEE website.

TEACHER/ADMINISTRATOR STATUS REPORT:
(Sharon Sherman)
NJ Schools Initiative: Every teacher and administrator will need to be evaluated starting this fall. Evaluations will be based on student-learning objectives and standardized testing. PARCC will replace the NJASK. Teachers/administrators will be given 1 year if they are not “good enough” or they will be replaced. Raters are being trained already this year. Schools are losing teachers and administrators at a great number due to retirements and moving out of state. Salaries are being capped and other states are now better financial options. The NJELP will be a great resource for teachers due to the fact that it does not require additional work, but works with existing standards!

Teacher Preparation: NCATE replaced by CAPE. Summary just released and will be available in the fall. Pre-service teachers don’t usually have the GPA or SAT scores that the new regulations will require.
- Charter schools will require only a Bachelors’ degree and they will be the evaluating agency.
- Teachers in NJ do not need a masters’ degree.
- Supervisors only need 3 years of good observations and do not need a masters’ degree.

Teachers need to include in lesson plans all the references to the standards, which our database will enhance. These are the difficulties that need to be overcome to get EE to the teachers of New Jersey. Goals need to be linked to individual assessments as well as standards. This will allow teachers to meet Student Learning Objectives (SLO) that the commission can help create/guide.

(Rebecca Jordan)
EL and its’ relationship with science and social literacy.

Other items on agenda left to future or online…

NJ Earth Day/Environmental Education Week 2013
• Summary of EE Week, Earth Day and Earth Week activities
• Discussion RE: lessons learned and ideas for 2014

Growing the NJ Kids and Nature Network (CTA Action #2)
• Update on the NJ Outdoor Bill of Rights for 2013
• Activities planned for 2013 and who is currently involved
• Small groups or group discussion: What can individuals and the groups we represent do to help?
• Summarize group input and devise action plan

General EE Updates and Spring/Summer EE Efforts
• National EE/NAAEE update
• U.S./NJ Green Ribbon Schools Program Update
• Eco-schools/Sustainable Jersey: NJCEE invited to attend kickoff informational meeting (July 22 from 1-4 pm at College of NJ – invitation to be mailed out soon. Task forces to be created – NJCEE members encouraged.
• NJSBA Workshop-EE/Green School Activities
• NJ Sustainable Schools Conference Summary
• NJ School to Farm Conference Summary
• Envirothon 2013 Summary: This year was the 20th anniversary event. See the website for full details. 24 schools participated. (www.njenvirothon.org) Friend them on Facebook!
• NAAEE conference highlights
• ANJEE updates – conference, awards, strategic plan
• Other EE announcements and updates

CLOSING REMARKS & DEPARTURE
NCLI releasing latest version in the coming weeks.

Audubon World Series Birding – event won this year by youth team.
Derek – archive newsletters (njsafeschools.org)
Don’t forget EEdNews and send pictures for the website to Marc.

• Autumn meeting schedule – to be posted and emailed in the near future.
• Departure