Joint Meeting of the NJ Commission on EE And Inter-agency Work Group

AGENDA

Wednesday, October 31, 2001
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Public Hearing Room

8:30 a.m.   COFFEE/TEA and Halloween treats

9:00 a.m.   Group Introductions and Welcome
             * Opening remarks by the Chair
             * Review of agenda – changes, new business
             * Review of meeting notes from last meeting – changes, approval
             * Circulate attendance list/make appropriate corrections
             * Winter – Spring, 2002 meeting logistics/flyer

General Remarks/Updates
             * Update on the NJCCCS and the review process
             * Final votes for Chair and Vice Chair
             * Update on NJCEE membership and pending appointments
             * Description of, and rationale for, committee break-outs/work plans

9:45 a.m.   Committee Break-out Discussions and Decisions
             * Projects/Milestones and associated tasks
             * Deadlines within a timeline through end of June, 02
             * Who’s doing what/budget items and estimates

10:15 a.m.  Break

10:30 a.m.  Committee Reports and Work Plan Decisions

* Nominations for Chair & Vice Chair/Voting process to take place
             * Review/approval of May meeting notes/Attendance issue
             * Review agenda/Add changes and/or new business
             * Autumn meeting logistics/Parking passes distributed
             * Membership update

9:30 a.m.  Finance and Legislative Committee Report
             * Upcoming Legislative activity
             * Status/details regarding the ‘Earth Day Education’ Account
             * EETAP grant application/Trust Fund update

10:00 a.m. Inter-agency Work Group/EE Network Committee Report
             * Update on ANJEE web site activity

10:10 a.m. Program Committee Report
             * 2001 Joint meeting circumstances
             * Programs related to the ‘Earth Day Education’ Account
             * 2002 Environmental Education Forum concept
             * ANJEE newsletter funding request/revisit discussion

10:30 a.m.  BREAK

10:45 a.m.  Publications Committee Report
* Update on annual report and next steps
* Update on Plan of Action revisions process and next steps
* Status of existing publication #’s (POA, posters, Env. Values Conf.)

11:00 a.m.  **Priorities for 01-02 and Progress Indicators - Discussion**

* Establish list of priority tasks and who is responsible, for upcoming year
* Establish next steps needed for the identification of progress indicators

11:15 a.m.  **NJDEP Presentation: Electronic EE/Env. Resources**

* DEP’s ENDEX program
* Rutgers Digital Library
* Discussion about possible links with EE Network needs/partnerships

11:45 a.m.  **Meeting summary and wrap up**

* New business, if any/Distribute publications
* Meeting highlights and summary/Future agenda items
* Departure
* Frank opened the meeting, reviewed the agenda and asked for new business (none added)

* The September meeting notes were reviewed and informally accepted (no changes made)

* John Lysko provided a brief background about the original formation of the core curriculum content standards and the current and ongoing revisions and updating process. He explained the enhancements to the Science standards (grade clusters were further defined) and a copy of the environmental standard (5.12, now 5.10) was circulated. It was noted that the standard was divided into two strands – ‘natural interactions’ and ‘human interactions.’ It was suggested that we work closely with Art Mitchell to provide support and input regarding this standard in terms of letters and a possible focus group.

* Tanya provided a brief update regarding the school reconstruction initiative and the recent pre-conference about this at the New Jersey School Boards Association Convention.

* The group was then divided into committee and allowed time to prepare their reports and priorities for 2002.

* The Legislative and Finance Committee: Not much movement with the bill; the environmental education bill was one of five put forth by DEP as priority bills for the agency; The speaker must review in order for it to be posted for a full vote; bad timing in ‘lame duck session’ and elections; phone calls and letters would help; if passed, the commission would need to get ownership of it in the new administration and would need to rally for its support in order to get control of the funds; if not passed, it would need to go through the entire legislative process again with new members in the Legislature; Frank and John discussed the value of a Spring mailing that would include the white paper, 99/00 annual report, poster, fact sheet, letter and membership list; if not passed, the commission should request discretionary funds again and seek other sources of funds.

* The Program Committee: Helen and Tanya discussed the Earth Day Education fund stipends (10 $1,000 stipends) as primary activity. The opportunities must be announced in January through March, selected in April and concluded by the end of August. The second activity is the organization of 2 or 3 education-based seminars for non-formal educators, to take place in May. The third activity is the April Legislative Forum. Ideas for content, goals and objectives are being sought (none suggested). The fourth activity is the August Joint Meeting. Again, ideas for content, goals and objectives are being sought (none were suggested).

* The Environmental Education Network/Inter-agency Work Group: George explained that the $5,000 grant received by the Alliance in partnership with the commission has finally been allocated for web site development. $1,500 was presented to Mike Skelly, Jr. (StarFyre Network Systems) to design and develop the ANJEE homepage. Now that the site is almost completed, $3,500 will be presented to Mike Skelly, Sr. to design and develop the homepage for the network. The site will include a directory of resources, materials and people – Mike already has a design for it. It should be completed by April.
* The Publications Committee – There are three publications that are in production in 2002. The 99/00 annual report should be completed and printed in February; the updated Plan of Action should be available for Earth Day (April); and, the 01 annual report should be available in the summer. Assistance is being looked into for writing and editing, though funds are limited to pay for help. Printing costs and quantities needed must be determined for each publication. The group reviewed draft portions of the 99/00 report and made suggestions related to the cover design, logo and use of acronyms. Tanya and Marc provided a review of the publications available for distribution (poster, Plan of Action, Fact Sheet, 1998 annual report).

* Meeting highlights were summarized; next meeting logistics were discussed and the group was dismissed by noon.