Joint Meeting of the New Jersey Commission on Environmental Education
And Inter-agency Work Group - AGENDA
Thursday, March 13, 2003
NJDEP Headquarters, Trenton
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Public Hearing Room

8:30 a.m. COFFEE AND TEA – We will begin promptly at 9:00 a.m.

9:00 Opening Remarks
- Welcome and opening remarks from Chair Joan Elliot
- Review of agenda and request for new business items
- Review/acceptance of February meeting (SWOT) notes
- Membership update, if any; attendance roster Tanya Oznowich

9:30 Environmental Ed./Education Updates Group Members
- Updates on EE and/or education activities among members
- Overview: The ANJEE Retreat Pat Skelly, President

9:45 Plan of Action Committee – Report and Discussion Dale Rosselet
- Summary of Committee meeting highlights
- Decisions regarding the Plan of Action/Next Steps
- Confirm committee membership

10:05 Earth Day Committee – Report and Discussion Rev. Fletcher Harper
- Summary of Committee meeting highlights
- Discussion regarding a publication and/or an event
- Discussion regarding NJDEP Earth Day activities
- Discussion regarding support for new EE legislation
- Group discussion and next steps
- Confirm committee membership

10:25 Environmental Education Network Committee Tanya Oznowich
- Summary of SWOT discussion points Mike Skelly, Sr.
- Status of EE Network activity
- Proposal for EEN survey distribution and purpose
- Confirm committee membership

10:45 BREAK

11:00 DEP/Guest Presentation and Status: Athena Sarafides
“Greening New Jersey Schools through Jeff Brown
School Construction Efforts”
- Office of Innovative Technology and Market Development, NJDEP
- Global Learning, Inc., and the New Jersey Sustainable Schools Network

11:45 a.m. Wrap Up and Departure Joan Elliot
- New business items Group Members
- Meeting highlights and future agenda items Group Members
- Logistics for next meeting

Note: Joan Elliot, Chair can be reached at joan.elliott@ag.state.nj.us
Note: Next NJCEE/IWG Meeting is Wednesday, May 14, 2003
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NJCEE Attendees: Maria Downes, Joan Elliot, Fletcher Harper, John Kirk, Kathy McLaughlin, Tanya Oznokwich, Dale Rosselet, George Schlosser, Jim Shissias

IWG Attendees: Mimi Dunne, Joan Olawski-Stiener, Marc Rogoff,

Friends of EE: Janice Reese-Berardo, Mike Skelly Sr., Pat Skelly

Meeting Notes:

- Joan provided opening remarks/introductions and reviewed the SWOT results from the February meeting. One of her personal goals for members of the commission is to offer professional development to all members.

- Tanya provided an overview on membership (nominations were submitted for openings and returned) all existing members with expired terms will be contacted to discuss their continued involvement; then we will submit a final list of members who would like to continue to serve on the commission.

- Round robin topics included: NEEAC survey results; EIC Approach Update; EE activities in John Lisko's district; overview of the ANJEE retreat; summer joint meeting with ANJEE members; professional development ideas for commission members.

- Joint summer meeting 2003 with ANJEE members: Dale, Kathy and Pat agreed to look into southern coastal sites and dates for the meeting – will report back on this at the May meeting.

- The Plan of Action (POA) Committee is interested in revising the POA (versus updating it). Much credit and thanks was given to the earlier committee members who spent a lot of time updating portions of the POA – all of their gathered and rewritten information will be considered during the revisions process. The commission gave informal approval (Fletcher – motion; Kathy – seconded) to the POA committee to begin to draft an NSF planning grant proposal for this initiative and to piece together a process, who’s involved, etc.

- The Earth Day Committee considered doing an “environmental primer” as a publication linked with the commission/work group (to help promote them and the website) as well as providing a “common grounds” tool for the general public in terms of providing descriptions and links for common environmental terms used today. The committee also considered planning a future legislative forum. The purpose of the forum (to be held at the State House annex) is to bring attention and visibility to the commission’s role/existence, accomplishments, recent activities and future interests. Tanya met with staff at the State House and received guidance on how to make such an occasion successful. The commission gave informal approval (Dale – motion; John – seconded) to have the committee begin work on a publication. The commission also gave informal approval (Kathy – motion; Dale – seconded) to have the committee begin work on the forum. Tanya would like the “Earth Day education fund” to be used for these expenditures.

- The Environmental Education Network (EEN) Committee has added content to the current website. The survey form was distributed for commission comment and was to be completed and submitted to Marc by commission members and their organizations. There are current issues with the transfer of domain names but this is soon to be resolved.
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- Special presentations: The theme for the late morning presentations was “high performance buildings/green buildings.” A comprehensive powerpoint presentation was provided by Jeff Brown, Executive Director of Global Learning, Inc., and the New Jersey Sustainable Schools Network. Jeff’s presentation demonstrated what is shown to NJ school boards to encourage their adoption or inclusion of LEEDS certified buildings in their school construction plans. Athena Sarafides, with the DEP Office of Innovative Technology and Market Development, provided an update on the technical and infrastructure aspects of new school construction and the LEEDS program (green schools certification program) in New Jersey.