

California Environmental Education Interagency Network Meeting



Date: Thursday, October 17, 2013 9:30-11:30 AM
Location: Exploratorium, Pier 15, San Francisco

Meeting Leader: Ed Wong
Note Taker: Susan Knadle

No Call-in Participants or Guest Speaker for this meeting – we had an Exploratorium tour!

Present:

Ed Wong, CARB
Annie Kohut Frankel, California Coastal Commission
Susan Knadle, OEHHA, retired, UC Davis
Lesia Johnston, California DFW
Anne Stephens, CDE
Brian Brown, Water Education Foundation, Project WET
Michelle Robinson, California DWR
Judy Nottoli, CARB
Brook Gamble, UC Naturalist Program
Nate Inj, ACOE, CREEC
Donna Pozzi, State Parks
David Moore, CDFW

1. Check – in and Catch –up

- Welcome and Introductions
- Reviewed Agenda
- Approved Minutes from September with changes

Action Items from October:

- David Moore called Yolo Wildlife Area facility on Chiles Road as a potential meeting place.
- Lesia Johnston suggested that we might go to the Nimbus Fish Hatchery for the steelhead run.
- Other possibilities for meetings are the Powerhouse and Railroad Museum

2. Committee Reports and Discussion

- Administration and Organization
 - Ed Wong gave an update on the November meeting in Auburn
 - David Moore said that Heidi Stafford, the CREEC representative at the Yolo Wildlife Area, said it would be nice for CEEIN members to come when there is a Discover the Flyway program so they could watch the elementary students doing projects. The best time of the year is fall (Sept-Oct), but we would need to make a reservation three months in advance. Alternatively, a Volunteer Ranger could

- lead us on a car caravan around the Vic Fazio Flyway for wildlife viewing.
- Annie emailed updated calendar to CEEIN members
- Annie volunteered to set up a CEEIN Twitter account. CEEIN members should send her each agency's information
- Michele can have more brochures printed so CEEIN members should send changes to her.
- Communications and Outreach
 - The National Green Schools Conference will be held in Sacramento in March, 2014. CEEIN could get a booth there – if we went in together it would cost about \$200/agency
- Legislation and Diversity – no report

Education and the Environment Initiative
 North American Association for Environmental Education Conference, Baltimore
 Updates from Anne Stephens

- David Orr from Oberlin College was a keynote speaker at the Blue Sky Funders Forum held during the NAAEE conference in Baltimore October 11, 2013. The purpose of the Forum was to provide a platform for leaders in the funding and NGO community to discuss the environmental education landscape, environmental education policy, and key strategies that yield the greatest promise in enhancing environmental literacy efforts. About 100 people from around the US participated. Orr spoke about how education for sustainability is a matter of national security, due to the fact that our grid is very vulnerable to terrorism. Communities must become more self-sufficient by engaging people in real activities where they live. This is how EE can become more relevant.

Kevin Coyle (Vice President, Education, National Wildlife Federation) also spoke about how Federal agencies have measured EE outcomes by how effectively programs reduce pollution. Due to the fact that many EE programs aren't measuring their outcomes effectively, nor do they focus directly on pollution reduction, funding from these agencies has been reduced. EE providers need to focus on how to measure and report outcomes.

Jim Elder (Founding Director, Campaign for Environmental Literacy).

Elder cited three movements that can provide leverage for EE:

- 1) The Next Generation Science Standards will bring more funding for professional development...the emphasis on taking an integrated approach to science is a perfect match with environmental education.
- 2) The National Green Ribbon Program has been adopted by 39 states, and is encouraging more environmental ed in schools
- 3) No Child Left Inside Legislation has spurred states to develop environmental

literacy plans. Jim cited California as being in the implementation phase of its environmental literacy plan, mistakenly sharing that the EEI constitutes our State Plan, which is not the case. (This also came up during one of the breakout sessions of the conference, where a University of Texas study stated that California was in the implementation phase of its SELP, also citing EEI as the “plan”.

Anne clarified in both cases that the state has only identified members of a State Environmental Literacy Task Force that will develop the SELP, and that EEI curriculum is an important piece of the plan, but it is not, in itself, a SELP.

- - CalRecycle has contracted with the Sacramento County Office of Education to write correlation documents for EEI and Next Generation Science Standards and Common Core. It was shared by the group that If you don't put Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards in the title of your EE workshops, teachers will likely not be given approval to attend.
 - It was also mentioned that CEEIN agencies should partner with Superintendents and County Offices to inform them of how EE can meet the objectives of NGSS and Common Core.
 - Monitoring outcomes is important. At some future meeting David Moore could share with CEEIN members the information he learned at a NOAA class on Program Evaluation and Planning.
- Melissa Smith works with Kathy DiRanna of the K-12 Alliance

3. **New Business**

- Annie developed a list of workshop presenters for the CEEIN strand that will be held at the CSTA meeting in Palm Springs next week
- DWR has the CEEIN banner to put up at the meeting. Anne can take to Palm Springs.

4. **What's New In Your World**

- Lesa: She sent out Project Wild workbooks (?)
- Jerry Brown has signed the legislation to ban lead ammunition.
- Project Learning Tree is transitioning to Cooperative Extension.
- Clean Tech Showcase "Nicola's Gardens" – an 8-year old developed an application to help kids make healthy food choices
- Brian: The Executive Director of the Water Education Foundation is retiring and they are searching for a new Director.
- Brook Gamble has done two instructor workshops for the UC Naturalist Program.

5. **Meeting Wrap-Up**

Action Items:

- Brian will research a meeting location
- Annie will set up institutional tweets
- Brian will share information on National Green Schools Conference.
- All: Should CEEIN participate in National Green Schools Conference?

No December Meeting

Next meeting is January 16, 2004 at Cal/EPA, Room 230

Lead: Ed Wong, Notetaker: Anne Stephens