

California Environmental Education Interagency Network Meeting
October 15, 2015, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.
California Environmental Protection Agency Building
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Meeting Leader: Ed Wong

Note Taker: Christy Porter Humpert

Attendees:

David Dauer – California Conservation Corps

Tony Vasquez – California Conservation Corps

Kyle Money Penny – John Muir Charter School

Shannon Gordon – California Department of Education

Greg Ira – California Naturalist Program

DeAnn Tenhunfeld, California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom

Antonio Leaks, California Air Resources Board

Susan Knadle, OEHHA retired, UC Davis

Christy Porter Humpert, CalRecycle

Annie Kohut Frankel, California Coastal Commission

Brian Brown, Water Education Foundation/Project WET

Ed Wong, California Air Resources Board

Laura Drath, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Calling in:

Reed Schneider, AEOE

Tom Drake, AEOE

Adina Merenlender, California Naturalist Program

1. Check-in and Catch-up

- Ed Wong called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- The group reviewed the agenda. Shannon asked to add a discussion of the Gold Star logo and an update on the CDE STEM Symposium.
- The minutes were approved. Annie moved to approve and Christy seconded.
- Reviewed action items from September 2015 meeting

2. Committee Reports and Discussion

- **Administration and Organization**
 - Ed circulated the 2016 meeting host/note taker list.
 - Ed circulated the sign-up sheet for CEEIN committees.

- Shannon request that CEEIN discontinue use of the old CEEIN “Gold Star” logo because it may be offensive to holocaust survivors.

- **Communications and Outreach**

- CDE STEM Symposium will have an “Environment-Based Education” table for CEEIN members. Shannon requested help staffing the table from 10:30 – 1:00 on Thursday, Oct. 29. Kirk Amato from CalRecycle will help set up/staff table. Annie can help at the table if needed.

- **Diversity, Leadership and Legislation**

- No items

3. **Guest Speakers: California Conservation Corps**

Tony Vasquez and David Dauer, CCC + Kyle Money Penny (John Muir Charter School)

The California Conservation Corps (CCC) was founded by Jerry Brown in 1976 and modeled after the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's. There is a strong environmental aspect to programs with youth development for ages 18-25. There are also 14 certified independent local conservation corps, 7 residential and 18 non-residential sites. There are 1,537 positions at a time with year round entry. Their motto is “Hard work, low pay, miserable conditions, and more!”

The CCC placed 2,500 individuals last year and expect to place 3,000 this year. They are looking for flexible, motivated, and committed youth.

Each site has a different area of expertise/focus, such as fire or park rehab. Conservation awareness program is a requirement for graduation from the program. Project sites have partners that teach “hands-on” activities. There is also a Career Development class that is required (teaches about filling out an application, interviewing, etc.). Sponsors pay CCC to deliver work. Typical projects include trail construction/maintenance, wildland fire, park rehab, energy conservation. Typical sponsors are US Forest Service, Dept. of Parks & Recreation, Cal Fire, and BLM. All CCC members are committed to emergency response, including fire.

The John Muir Charter Schools partner with CCC. They have 57 schools throughout the state and they primarily work with HS dropouts. Their goal is to create lifelong sustainable employment. Last year they were designated the California Charter School of the Year.

Annie Kohut Frankel said that CCC members have helped with Beach Cleanups and other events and she was very happy with their contributions.

4. New Business

NGSS Coalition – Annie and Brian reported on the CDE Foundation's efforts to convene a group to help shepherd NGSS's implementation. The next meeting is at the CDE STEM Symposium in Anaheim and Annie and Brian will be attending, but Brian won't be able to continue to participate. They welcomed participation from other CEEIN members.

Blueprint for Environmental Literacy – Shannon announced that everyone can get two free hardcopies of the Blueprint document upon request. We will have a discussion about the Blueprint at our next meeting. CEEIN is mentioned in the Blueprint. The document is online on CDE webpage. Ten Strands will also have another communication release so that it doesn't fall off the media's radar.

5. What's New in Your World

Laura – Gearing up for salmon season at the hatchery. There is a roster of tours for students. Opening fish ladder on Nov 2nd.

Annie – Whale Tail grant deadline is Nov 2nd. Coastal Cleanup went well last month. CSTA was fantastic with wonderful responses. She participated in a plastic pollution summit recently.

Christy – There is an EEI webinar today. CDE's Instructional Quality Commission approved the draft Science Framework, which included references to the Environmental Principles and Concepts.

DeAnn – Conducted an invasive species workshop at the CSTA conference. She distributed a new curriculum unit on sustainable energy. Their statewide conference is coming up next week at the Queen Mary in Long Beach.

Greg – UC California Naturalist program – Started on October 1st. Greg worked as Director of Environmental Education in the State of Florida. Looking forward to learning more about what's happening in California. His office is located in the UCANR building in Davis on 2nd Street.

Shannon – Working on release of the Blueprint for Environmental Literacy. Will be presenting on the Blueprint at next month's CEEIN meeting.

Kyle – Interesting in finding new opportunities with member organizers.

Tony – Only have 8 crews on fires now. Catching up on prior work. Gearing up for CCC's 40th anniversary next year.

Reed – He gave a brief overview of AEOE, which was established in 1954 and is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit. Over 1000 members, including classroom teachers, State parks, etc. They sponsor events, conferences, and workshops. He is looking forward to working with CEEIN members.

Tom – AEOE added 2 smaller fall conferences (north and south).

Adina – Passed on sharing. [Note: Ed may try to get the Cal/EPA library to buy the “Ecosystems of California” handbook that Adina highlighted at our last meeting]

Ed – Gave a workshop to 52 teachers at CSTA conference. Cal/EPA has an Earth Day celebration every year and is starting to plan for April 2016.

Action Items

- 1) Ed Wong will send CA Conservation Corps and Ag in the Classroom handouts to call-in members.
- 2) Reed Schneider and Tom Drake will email their contact information to Ed Wong and Lesley Taylor.
- 3) Christy Porter Humpert will email link of next EEI webinar to members.
- 4) DeAnn Tenhunfeld will email their new sustainable energy unit link to Ed Wong who will share with members.

Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on Nov 19th at Fish and Wildlife at Nimbus location – Laura will be lead. Brian will be note taker. Shannon will be guest speaker.