

California Environmental Education Interagency Network Meeting
Thursday, July 16, 2015, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Soil Born Farms, 2140 Chase Drive, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670



Location Hosts: Janet Zeller and Shannon Hardwicke
Meeting Leader: Shannon Gordon
Note Taker: Annie Kohut Frankel

Attendees:

Sandra Derby	UCANR-Project Learning Tree
Linda Desai	Project WILD
Laura Drath	CA DFW
Annie Kohut Frankel	California Coastal Commission
Shannon Gordon	CDE
Susan Knadle	OEHHA retired, UC Davis
Adina Merenlender	California Naturalist Program
Christy Porter-Humpert	Cal Recycle EEI
Lesa Johnston	CA DFW
Michelle Robinson	CA DWR
Carolyn Schimandle	State Parks
Lesley Taylor	CDE
DeAnn Tenhunfeld	CA Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom
Ed Wong	CA Air Resources Board

1. Check-in and Welcome

- Welcome and Introductions

2. Guest Speaker: Soil Born Farms Tour

Presentation by Shawn Harrison, Founder & Co-Director, Soil Born Farms

The American River Ranch, a 55-acre historic ranch located within the American River Parkway, is the permanent home of Soil Born Farms. It provides a wonderfully diverse landscape to engage both youth and adults in hands-on activities that educate and connect them with the natural world, healthy food, healthy eating, job and life skills, hard work, and service opportunities. The American River Ranch also provides the opportunity to expand the production of vegetables and fruit to meet the needs of more Sacramento residents, particularly those in underserved neighborhoods with little or no access to fresh, nutritious food.

3. Review Minutes and Action Items

- Approved May 2015 Meeting minutes (Annie Frankel moved, Sandy Derby seconded)
- Approved June 2015 Meeting minutes (Shannon Gordon moved, Annie Frankel seconded). All action items were completed. Some members are having trouble using box.com on Internet Explorer. Suggested to try Chrome or Firefox.

4. **Committee Reports and Discussion**

- Administration and Organization
 - CEEIN 2016 host list is posted on box.com and members should sign up for meeting lead and note taker roles. Goal is to complete sign-ups before November meeting.
 - A lead and members are needed for each of the three CEEIN committees. All members should join a committee. Leads will be chosen at the September meeting. Members should read pages 6-10 in the CEEIN handbook to review committee responsibilities.
 - Ed Wong reminded the group that there is only one vote per agency even if there is more than one agency participant.
 - Ed Wong will be working with someone at CalEPA to move the CEEIN MOU forward toward signatures.
 - Adina Merenlender spoke about the September meeting which she will host at the Pepperwood Preserve in Santa Rosa. Attendees should pack a lunch. A field tour will follow the meeting. Prepare for sun and heat. Ed is organizing a van pool from Sacramento.
 - February 2016 meeting will be in Chico with Anne Stephens.
 - Ed Wong will continue working on the draft revisions to the CEEIN Handbook.

- Communications and Outreach
 - A CEEIN strand of workshops has been finalized for the California Science Teachers Association conference in Sacramento, October 2-4, with a full day of sessions on Saturday.
 - 900 CEEIN brochures are in storage. They are out of date. Michelle Robinson with DWR is leaving her position and doesn't know who will be responsible after her. A discussion ensued regarding future redesign and printing.
 - Annie requests that members and partners check their information on the ceein.org website and send corrections and additions to her.

- Diversity, Leadership and Legislation
 - Shannon shared that AB988 has been amended again.
 - Shannon mentioned SB476 is being circulated and amended. It includes new regulations for outdoor camps. New changes expanded its reach from camps that offer four consecutive night programs to those that offer three. This change would impact a lot more facilities. However, "education-based" organizations are exempt.

5. **What's New in Your World**

- Adina: CA Naturalists has hired a new staff person working part-time for them and part-time for Project Learning Tree. She'll be at CSTA. A graduate student did interviews of teachers who had gone through the CA Naturalist programs and found that they like being in a program that's more than just teachers. They did not want a program for just teachers, which was surprising.
- Linda Desai: Project WILD will be at CSTA with a NGSS focused workshop.

- Michelle: She is leaving DWR for OEHHA. Her position is open.
- Annie: Shared new educational bookmarks. Coastal Cleanup Day is September 19. The Coastweeks calendar is open for event submissions taking place September 19-October 11. The Coastal Commission is sponsoring the Beach Buddy exhibit at the California State Fair, run by State Conservation Corps members.
- Christy Porter-Humpert: 500,000 EEI student kits have been distributed to date.
- DeAnn Tenhunfeld is a new CEEIN representative for CA Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom.

6. **Guest Speaker: Growing Together Initiative**

Presentation by Shannon Hardwicke, School Garden Initiative Coordinator, Soil Born Farms

Shannon H. provided information about Soil Born's work with school gardens in South Sacramento . Information about the Growing Together School Garden Initiative is online at: <https://www.soilborn.org/index.php/education/youth-programs/growing-together.html>

They have school garden programs at five schools, four elementary and one middle, started two or three years ago. They are installing fruit trees at schools with the Common Vision organization. They are piloting a curriculum at these sites. They are training teachers so they feel equipped to take kids out. Interns and team teaching are possible solutions. A Level 3 volunteer can supervise kids outside if they are within sight of a certified teacher. So, this works if the garden is alongside the classroom windows. It costs \$70 to do Level 3 volunteer checks.

They have a grant to put in 35 home gardens over the next nine months.

They hold a School Garden Symposium for teachers in February which has been very popular.

Among the big challenges facing school gardens is vandalism.

7. **Meeting Wrap-Up**

Action Items:

- Lesley Taylor will post CEEIN handbook on box.com
- All members read pages 6-10 in handbook regarding committees.
- Shannon Gordon will upload information on current legislation to box.com.
- Ed will update the host list and the field trip vanpool list on box.com.

Next Meeting – September 17, 2015 at Pepperwood Preserve, Santa Rosa

Meeting Lead and Location Contact – Adina Merenlender and Ed Wong

Note Taker – Susan Knadle

Pepperwood Preserve- more information available at

<http://www.pepperwoodpreserve.org>