



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

Mail Code: 402
Office of Environmental Justice
401 East State Street, 7th Floor
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0402
TEL # (609) 292-2908
FAX # (609) 984-3962

BOB MARTIN
Commissioner

Environmental Justice Advisory Council Organizational Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2017, 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
7th Floor Large Conference Room
401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625

Call to Order

10:08 am

Interim Chair, Zachary Lewis, opened the meeting. Council adopted agenda. There were 9 members present and 5 on the phone. See sign-in sheet attached.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Meeting Minutes from the November 2, 2016, December 15, 2016, and February 1, 2017 meetings were approved by the Council.

Working Groups

Air Working Group:

Chair – Kim Gaddy Vice Chair – Zenobia Fields (Presented Report)

At their past working group meeting on February 28, 2017, a large part of the conversation surrounded the worrisome amount of emissions emanating from congested truck corridors proximate to the ports of New Jersey (Newark/Elizabeth, Camden, and Bayonne). The working group would like to explore various helpful technologies (e.g., alternative fuels, ways to prevent queuing, etc.) They are also looking to see how the results from the Volkswagen settlement may bring funding to these communities, with assistance from different transportation authorities. Andy Kricun has a good contact with the port of Camden who will be able to provide assistance. Zenobia Fields commented on her contacts with the Port Authority of NY/NJ. Kim Gaddy commented on her involvement with the quarterly meeting at the Coalition of Healthy Ports.

Environmental Education and Communication:

Chair Position(s) Pending

During their working group meeting on February 10, 2017, everyone was able to bring forth the topics that they would like to see prioritized. Ndidi brought forth a possible initiative, “The 10 ways to be an Environmental Activist in NJ”. This would show all the different sources of

environmental justice information that a person could obtain. The working group has decided that their next meeting would be with DEP communication representatives in order to understand what existing communication strategies and initiatives. EJAC Roles in Local Board(s)/Commissions/Councils, and Alternative Media, will be further discussed within the working group and addressed later with the full council.

Land Working Group:

Co-Chairs –Olivia Glenn and Lloyd Abdul Raheem (Olivia Presented Report).

During their working group meeting on February 15, 2017, three main issues were discussed:

1) Permaculture and food systems (Urban Agriculture) - possible partners include: Ground Work Elizabeth, Department of Agriculture, and Natural Resource Conservation Service; 2) The consequences and events surrounding the Emerald Ash Borer. The working group would like to meet and learn more from DEP's forestry office; 3) The deterrence of illegal dumping needs to be met on a greater scale in urban communities. This could be the expansion of the current pilot program of surveillance in state parks. The next land working group meeting will be on April 5, 2017.

Water Working Group:

Chairman – Andy Kricun, Vice-Chair Kim Gaddy

This working group will meet in March 16, 2017 at 10am.

Doodle poll

Council agreed with OEJ to use Doodle polls to schedule upcoming meetings.

Adoption of By-laws

Members agreed to move forward with the by-laws, and agreed to make prospective amendments at the next full EJAC meeting.

Election of Officers

Zachary Lewis was nominated and subsequently elected Chairman of EJAC. The positions of Vice Chair and Secretary will be tabled and elections will occur at the next meeting.

Microsoft SharePoint Update

Will be addressed individually with members as necessary after the meeting.

Next EJAC Meeting: May 4, 2017, 10am – 12pm, 401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ in the 7th Floor Large Conference Room.

Adjournment

12:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Kristen Palma, Office of Environmental Justice