



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

PHIL MURPHY
Governor

SHIELA OLIVER
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

CATHERINE R. MCCABE
Commissioner

Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

September 6, 2018
7th Floor Conference Room
401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625

Council Members

Present: Joann Held, Meredith Taylor, Demetrius Marlowe, Amy Tuininga, Phyllis Reich, Leilani Holgado, Kim Gaddy, Ted Carrington

On the Phone: Colandus (Kelly) Francis, Monique Griffith, Melissa Miles, Lloyd Abdul-Raheem, Andy Kricun, Gantry Fox (left when Ethics training started)

Absent: Zachary Lewis, Zenobia Fields, James Horne, Yvonne Blake (but present for Ethics training)

OEJ Staff: Riche Outlaw, Nadia Akbar

DOH Representatives: Christa Fontecchio, Barbara Goun

Other DEP Staff: Michael Gordon, Allison McLeod, Peg Hanna, Laura Scatena, Minnie Tangasi, Alan Miller, Julie Krause, Carrie Sargeant, Jennifer Feltis Cortese, Frank McLaughlin

Call to Order

Vice-Chair, Kim Gaddy, opened the meeting at 10:15am.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Demetrius Marlowe moved that the minutes from the June 5, 2018 meeting be approved. Phyllis Reich seconded the motion. All present voted yes.

OLD BUSINESS

Working Group Updates

Environmental Education & Communication (Monique Griffith)

1. The Workgroup is focusing on the Community Contacts Database for Tier 1 municipalities.
2. A meeting was held with the DEP Office of Local Government Assistance to identify ways to collaborate on communications.
3. The Workgroup is waiting to hear from DEP Staff regarding next steps for the Air Quality Community Corner to be placed on the DEP Website.

Land (Lloyd Abdul-Raheem)

1. The Land Workgroup is reviewing the draft white paper that was a product of the Urban Agriculture Symposium sponsored by EJAC last fall.
2. The next step will be to reach out to local officials to solicit support for the initiatives identified in the White Paper.

Water (Andy Kricun)

1. Lead in Drinking Water Awareness Program: A Public Service Announcement is about to go on-line in coordination with the Camden Go Green Initiative.
2. The Workgroup is working with DEP on a best practices handbook to address CSO flooding. They are also setting up a Peer-to-Peer Network to help Utilities with limited resources to address this issue.
3. The Workgroup is exploring Water Workforce Training in collaboration with EPA.

Air (Kim Gaddy):

1. The Workgroup is focused on projects that will reduce air emissions in Port-Adjacent Communities, and will make recommendations to DEP.
2. With respect to the VW Settlement Fund, Peg Hanna reported that the DEP has restructured the draft mitigation plan to address comments from the Governor's Office. They expect the comment period to begin soon, including some listening sessions. You can sign up for the List Serve to get notification of the comment opportunities.
<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/vw/>

New Working Group Members

New Members were invited to join one or more of the working groups.

Working Group Meeting Schedules

Each Working Group was asked to evaluate their current monthly meeting schedule and determine if adjustments need to be made to enable more members to participate.

- Environmental Education and Communication will have their next call on Sept 18 at 1pm. On that call they will select a new monthly meeting time.
- Water will have their next call on Sept 27 at 10am. Their current schedule of 3rd Thursday at 10am is working for them.
- Air is scheduled for Sept 27, but must reschedule.
- Land will move their next call to Sept 14 at 10am, the 2nd Friday of the month.

Full Council Meetings

Only one more Full Council meeting is on the calendar for this year – November 13. Because of the additional work related to EO 23, it was decided to add a Full Council meeting on October 9 at 10am. It was also decided to move the November 13 meeting to December 4.

Executive Order No. 23

Jennifer Feltis Cortese, a member of the DEP Core Team reviewed the Timeline for preparing the draft guidance document. It has included a series of Stakeholder meetings in July, two

Interagency meetings, and an upcoming series of Stakeholder meetings in September. The team is also meeting individually with officials and organizations such as the Urban Mayors Association.

In addition, an e-mail account has been established to receive input: EO23@dep.nj.gov

At the September Stakeholder Meetings, the DEP Core Team will be soliciting input on the following questions.

1. What are state agencies currently doing to advance EJ goals?
2. How can coordination between state agencies advance EJ goals? Do you have examples?
3. Should environmental justice areas be identified? If yes, how?
4. Do you have recommendations for how to better align or prioritize funding for environmental justice? What is needed for environmental justice communities or municipalities to better utilize funding? What technical assistance is needed?
5. What would be measures of success for state agencies to incorporate EJ in their work?

NEW BUSINESS

The Office of Environmental Justice continues to review resumes for potential new members who would be able to fill any future vacancies. Three that have been received recently are for Nicky Sheats, Ana Baptista and Amy Cradic. Comments from EJAC members are welcome. Kim Gaddy noted that two of the potential candidates are members of NJEJA and that EJAC already has two members representing NJEJA.

ETHICS TRAINING

Nick Corianus, the NJDEP Ethics Liaison, distributed copies of the Uniform Ethics Code and Plain Language Guide. The Sign-in sheet from this meeting will be used as certification that EJAC members received the packet.

Everyone on the Council must take the Ethics Training on-line module every 3 years, and take the Ethics Briefing in other years.

Council members were also directed to complete the Outside Employment Questionnaire. This must be filed once every 3 years unless you have a change in status, which would require that you file an update to the Questionnaire.

When you leave the Council, you must file a Post Employment Letter.

All filings should go to Riche Outlaw who will hold them for the Council.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned 12:05pm.