



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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CATHERINE R. McCABE
Commissioner

Environmental Justice Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

October 15, 2019

DEP Emergency Operations Center
401 East State Street, Trenton, NJ 08625

Council Members

Present: Monique Griffith, Leilani Holgado, Ted Carrington, Kim Gaddy, Phyllis Reich, Zachary Lewis, Amy Tuininga, Meredith Taylor, Melissa Miles, Joann Held.

On the Phone: Colandus (Kelly) Francis, Gantry Fox, Andy Kricun

Absent: Demetrius Marlowe, Yvonne Blake, Lloyd Abdul-Raheem

OEJ Staff: Riché Outlaw, Nadia Akbar, Heather Knizhnik

DOH Representative: Barbara Goun

DEP Guests: Commissioner McCabe, Secretary Fisher, Monique Purcell, Michael Gordon, Allison McLeod, Jennifer Feltis Cortese, Christine Schell, Minnie Best, Julia Wong, Frank McLaughlin, Brandon Carreno, Jessica Sponaule

Call to Order

Chair, Monique Griffith, opened the meeting at 10:10am.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Draft minutes from the September 10, 2019 meeting were corrected to show that Amy Tuininga participated by phone. Zachary Lewis moved that the minutes be approved as amended. Amy Tuininga seconded the motion. All present voted yes.

Urban Agriculture White Paper with Commissioner McCabe and Secretary Fisher

Members of the Land Working Group summarized the contents of the Urban Agriculture White Paper. They highlighted the issues of Food Insecurity and problems associated with lack of an official definition of Urban Agriculture.

- Secretary Fisher requested a list of examples of Urban Agriculture successes and failures that he could share with Department of Agriculture staff.
- Kim Gaddy & Monique Griffith requested that a Task Force be appointed to assess the current status of urban food systems and identify successes and gaps.

- Riché Outlaw suggested that the EO23 Guidance might contain a model for how such a Task Force could function as an interagency/community Work Group.
- Monique Griffith suggested that existing Best Management Practice Manuals may also be helpful in this effort.
- McCabe and Fisher committed to discussing the establishment of a Task Force which would include other agencies as well as Environmental Protection and Agriculture.

Community Collaborative Initiatives (CCI)

Kim Gaddy requested an update on the CCIs at the December meeting or first 2020 meeting. A list of contacts for each city would be helpful.

Pending Legislation (Mike Gordon)

A bill (S3974) has been introduced into the NJ Legislature which would amend the current Lead Paint Removal Act. It would give the NJ Attorney General the right to take action against lead paint companies in order to collect funds for remediation. A hearing is expected by the end of the year.

New Administrative Order and EJAC Nomination Process (Heather Knizhnik)

A new Administrative Order establishing the Environmental Justice Advisory Council is being drafted. It will reflect the new responsibilities assigned to the Council under EO23. The draft AO also divides Council members into 3 Classes in order to establish staggered terms. Each Class would be appointed for a 3-year term, so that each year one third of the positions would be up for re-appointment.

A Request for Nominations and Nomination Form are being prepared to facilitate the filling of 6 current vacancies. Council members discussed the Sectors identified in the Request for Nominations and also the contents of the Nomination Form. Comments on the Nomination Form are requested by October 25, 2019.

Remaining Agenda Items

Ted Carrington moved that the remaining agenda items – EO23 Draft Final Guidance Document and Transportation Climate Initiative – be tabled since the meeting had run over its allotted time. Zachary Lewis seconded the motion. All present voted yes.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:21 pm.

Next Meeting

December 10, 2019 at 10am