

Meeting Minutes
California Environmental Education Interagency Network (CEEIN)



Date: May 17, 2018

Location: L.A. Moran Reforestation Center

Meeting Lead: Sandy Derby

Note taker: Kathy Schulz

Attendees (In person only)

Darla Mills, Cal Fire

Laura Drath, California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Greg IRA, UC ANR – California Naturalist Program

Sarah Angulo, UC ANR – California Naturalist Program

Heather Holm, California State Parks

Nate Roth, California Department of Conservation

Kathy Schulz, California Department of Water Resources

Sandy Derby, UC ANR – Project Learning Tree

Bryan Ehlers, CalRecycle

Annie Kohut Frankel, California Coastal Commission

Melina Watts, Glenn County Resource Conservation District

Meeting called to order at 9:35 AM

Reviewed Agenda and Passed Around Sign-In Sheet

Reviewed & Approved Meeting Minutes

Reviewed and Updated Action Items

- Greg Ira has created a list of people he knows who have collaborated with each other. Other CEEIN members have added to it. We currently have 18 examples in Box.

- Christy is still working on drawing up the process that EEI went through for creating a list of ideas to consider when your agency needs to contract with someone to make lesson plans.

Committee Reports and Discussion

- **Administration and Organization**
Roster, Internal Roster, Email List, and Host List updated in box.com
Ed continues to update and maintain.

- **Outreach, Diversity, and Partnerships**
EE certification update
 - No certification update, last meeting was canceled. AEOE and their steering committee has sent out survey to other states that have done this and have received about six responses, hoping for a few more. Once data is received team will meet and apply.

- **Leadership and Legislation**
Legislation Updates- Bryan Ehlers

- In 2017, SB424 - Senator Allan's bill, it made it out of the Senate, went to assembly, went on suspense in appropriations committee where money was struck from bill and put into a one-time budget appropriation. Policy changes are still sitting in the Education Committee (see History of the bill at http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billHistoryClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB424)
- Ten Strands expects bill to be amended and would strip out part about CREEC, since funding already went out. Instead, the bill would establish state's intent regarding the Blueprint for Environmental Literacy. Idea is to establish that environmental literacy is a good goal, encourage state and district superintendents to act in ways that are supportive of environmental literacy. Would serve to lay the groundwork for future legislation.
- Questions arose regarding the future of CREEC. While no CDE representative was present at the meeting, Bryan Ehlers shared his understanding of what the situation was. Members should contact CDE directly for information.
- There was also discussion regarding the CREEC website and that it isn't being updated. The group discussed CEEIN creating an outward facing calendar so educators know about workshops, grant deadlines, etc.

Upcoming Conferences and participation

- CSTA workshops application deadline has passed. About a half dozen CEEIN members will be at CSTA. Cal Geo Survey + Dept of conservation booth, etc. Looking at adding a climate education day onto start of event.
- STEAM symposium. Sponsored by the CDE Foundation. October 28-29. Long Beach.
- Ag in the Classroom conference in Palm Springs in September.
- California Invasive Species Action League outreach week, June 2-10.
- California Climate Summit. CalEPA was contacted about 1.5 months ago. There will be an education affiliate event. Be associated with the summit, if not actually at the exact location. Summit begins September 12. Over 600 applications for affiliate events. Approach is to allow in unless compelling reason not to. Brian Ehlers and Matt Sinclair from UCOP will be coordinating. See as an opportunity to get folks in the education world to embrace environmental literacy and for climate folks to see education as a key strategy. Other affiliate event (coordinated by OPR?) - day of science, focused on science to action, how research is being turned into action. Youth engagement will be a key theme of the summit. Needs to be reflected in the affiliate event.

Lesson plan discussion

- Develop a guiding document on how to contract, e.g. with County Offices of Education, to develop lesson plans.

Equity and Inclusion

- American Alliance of Museums just released report of effective museum practices to promote diversity, equity, access and inclusion.

- California Outdoor Engagement Coalition hosted a webinar on equity and inclusion presented by Youth Outside. Coastal Commission partnered with them this year to do trainings for Whale Tail grantees.

Other Discussions

New Business and Important Announcements

CEEIN projects/collaboration update

Continue to add to CEEIN collaboration doc on [box.com](#). Greg and Heather exchanged a Venn diagram of climate change education in California. CEEIN could help flesh out. Greg will post on [box.com](#).

HS EE Reading List Discussion – Melina Watts

Melina is interested in providing reading suggestions to teachers for books that will promote environmental awareness. Annie will connect Melina with ranger at Channel Island National Park who incorporates books into programs.

This needs to be presented as a way to help teachers meet their teaching goal. E.g., Identify how it aligns to Common Core and other standards? E.g. Common core has a mandate for non-fiction reading; NGSS has emphasis on real world science.

CEEIN needs to consider how we engage with this: approve, promote? CEEIN members send suggestions. Challenge is teachers/schools have lots of autonomy in what they choose to teach/have their students read. Also, all CEEIN partner members unlikely to agree on what are appropriate books to promote.

Presentation Urban Forestry Program-

[Darla Mills](#)

CAL FIRE

[Environmental Scientist](#)

[Urban & Community Forestry](#)

Funding comes from variety of sources including feds and currently GHG reduction fund. ~ \$18 million.

1. Funding Urban Forestry Expansion, Improvement, and Management (cities, schools, non-profits, etc., can all apply). Plant trees, some maintenance, improving tree sites (e.g. Trees in sidewalks get more room, cut back cement). 150,000 - 1.5 million dollars. 75-25 match.
2. Urban forestry Management Activities. Funding available to cities, specialist districts, etc. Management plans, inventories, establish a tree ordinance \$150k-1.5 million. Also a 75-25 split.
3. Urban wood and biomass. Funding for cities, counties, non-profits. \$150k-1.5 million. Also a 75-25 split. To help create and develop projects that are non-traditional tree planting. Example: Sac Tree Foundation have purchased a portable wood mill. They are diverting urban trees and other vegetation. Milling and drying to use for things like park benches.

Diverts urban wood from the waste stream. Can't remove trees for this, but can use when taking out trees for other reasons.

In first cycle (14/15) funding went into disadvantaged communities. Next cycle (16/17) 25% competitive, 75% goes to disadvantaged communities. Communities can ask to have 25% match waved.

Every project must show a reduction in GHG emissions. Which means that it's hard to include education programs (hard to measure). Education component can be included and can account for up to 20% of grant funds.

Always have more applicants than can be funded.

Recommend drought tolerant natives (when you can get them), non-invasive, low-water use. Large tree canopy. Urban gardens can be nut and fruit trees.

Funding is listed on Cal Fire Website. Programs: Resource Management: Urban Forestry http://www.fire.ca.gov/resource_mgt/resource_mgt_urbanforestry_grants#.

Action Items

Annie – Create publicly available calendar to advertise workshops, grant opportunities, etc.

Christy – Develop brief overview on How to Contract for Lesson Plans.

Melina - Put the EE reading list on [box.com](https://www.box.com) . CEEIN members to update.

All – Continue updating CEEIN collaboration document.

All – Add to What's New in Your World.

What's New in Your World?

CDE Update – No CDE staff members present.

Heather: State Parks is convening a sea-level rise working group. Heather working with them.

Melina: still looking for funding for an EE coordinator. Hired as subcontractor for a Marine Protected Area event. Will be doing a talk about her novel at Oakland library.

Kathy: DWR will be at the California State Fair again. Very likely the last year for our water-wise garden exhibit. Flood Awareness Week is in October, working on large outreach campaign.

Laura: Nature Bowl finals were held at CSU Sacramento on May 12th. Work is underway to plan a September forum for CDFW interpretation, education and outreach staff to learn best practices for engaging varied cultural groups and to explore diversity, equity and inclusion. Nimbus Hatchery to host department's Aquatic Invasive program during California Invasive Species Action Week June 2-10.