



Kentucky Environmental Education Council (KEEC)  
Interagency Subcommittee on Environmental Education Meeting Minutes  
June 20, 2018

**Meeting Location:** Room 418, 300 Building, 300 Sower Boulevard, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Frankfort, KY 40601

**Meeting Time:** 1:30 p.m. Eastern

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Billy Bennett, Roberta Burnes, Elizabeth McNulty

**Absent Members:**

**Other Staff in Attendance:** Wesley Bullock, Gregory Taylor

**Others in Attendance:**

#### Meeting Introduction

Introductions were made around the table.

#### Quorum

According to the Kentucky Environmental Education Council bylaws, quorum is constituted by the members of the committee in attendance. Therefore, votes can be taken at any meeting. KEEC will also invite more members—from any agency that has to do with EE that is not currently represented. Roberta suggested Dee Lynch in KAIRE. Billy Bennett suggested Kim Yates, as the new chair of KUPPEE. Elizabeth McNulty suggested Jennifer Elwell in Agriculture.

#### Biennial Budget

KEEC and attending agencies reviewed how they fared in the 2018-2020 legislative budget process. The EE position in Division for Air Quality is funded by an annually recurring EPA grant that goes to all states, and is mandated by state law. EPA Brownfield money funds Elizabeth McNulty's position in the Division for Compliance Assistance, and that funding was up in air in the federal budget, but now secure. Robyn Whitted's KY EXCEL position is funded by non-federal pollution prevention grants.

#### Federal EE Funding

Billy Bennett discussed the NAAEE webinar on the Every Student Succeeds Act. Basically, local school districts would have to include environmental education programs in their request to the state for funds under Title IV of the ESSA.

#### Environmental Education Leadership Corps

The program has been selected for funding, but this will not be official until it is approved at the federal level, with a deadline of July 31<sup>st</sup>. The grant would be in the amount of \$241,000. Fifteen sites have requested AmeriCorps members, with one site requesting two, and one additional site would like an AmeriCorps member if a site drops out.

### Professional Environmental Educator Certification Course

Wesley Bullock presented the list of participants in the 2018-19 course. He noted that funding of the AmeriCorps program means that half of the slots in the course are reserved for AmeriCorps members and the course will have to return to running annually.

### EE Annual Report

After receiving guidance from the Council, KEEC will be publishing the report.

### Green Ribbon Schools

Billy Bennett reported that KEEC will now be administering the program for K-12 schools in Kentucky. The agency plans to change the state-level application to be more of a narrative description than a checklist.

### Kentucky Environmental Literacy Plan

Billy Bennett reported that revisions to the KELP are complete, and he will be sending out the report for public comment before publication.

### Reports from Committee Members

- Roberta Burnes reported that she is working on the EPA air quality flag program, which is intended for areas that forecast (Louisville is the only one), but could also be done in the eight areas that use the air quality index. Forty-three schools signed up to have her come and do outreach, but only 11 are in areas that do forecasting or monitoring.
- Elizabeth McNulty reported that the Division of Compliance Assistance has a lot of workshops coming up, including the KY EXCEL open house tomorrow.

### 2018 Schedule of Committee Meetings

KEEC reviewed the upcoming schedule of committee meetings

Adjourned at 2:35 p.m.