



Interagency Subcommittee on Environmental Education

December 10, 2014, 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

Capitol Education Center

Frankfort, KY

In attendance: Larry Moore, Kentucky Educational Television; Chad Von Gruenigen, Division of Water; John Eisiminger Division of Compliance Assistance; Kenya Stump, Department for Energy Development and Independence; Anne Saint-Agnan, Department of Education; Christine Duke, Department of Education; Roberta Burnes, Division for Air Quality; Steve Meredith, Finance and Administration Cabinet/Governor's Garden Initiative; Arnita Gadson, Environmental Quality Commission; Tresine Logsdon, Fayette County Public Schools; Elizabeth Schmitz, Michelle Shane, and Wesley Bullock, staff, KEEC. At 2:15, joined by Rae McEntyre, Department of Education.

The meeting opened at 1:20 PM with an introduction from Elizabeth Schmitz.

2015-2020 EE Master Plan. Ms. Schmitz distributed draft copies of the 2015-2020 environmental education master plan for Kentucky. She discussed the process for creating the draft, describing the regional meetings that were held across the state and the retreat at which KEEC drafted the plan with the help of KUPEE and KAEE. Referring to the master plan copies, she asked each attendee to consider two questions to be used to structure the meeting:

- Which of these goals can help your organization meet its objectives?
- How can your organization help achieve these goals.

Ms. Schmitz read each of the four main goals and discussed how those goals relate to the five-year Survey of Kentuckians' Environmental Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behaviors, which was completed this year. She divided the attendees into groups and asked them to view each goal posted on the wall around the room and place blue dots on areas of the master plan that can help their organization achieve its goals. She also asked each group to discuss their rationale with each other. After five minutes, she asked each group to rotate to the next goal and repeat the process until they were able to address each of the four goals.

Master Plan Process. Ms. Schmitz mentioned that one of the outcomes of the master planning process will be an online working group, primarily driven by KEEC, KAEE, and KUPEE. She invited all members of

ISEE to participate in what will likely be structured as a wiki to flesh out the implementation of each of the goals. She said that the next master plan will talk about what has been achieved, and she would like to publish a report to the legislature, which has not happened in the past. She said that the master plan will be published electronically and updated annually to reflect what has actually happened, which is what is written into the legislation.

Announcements. Ms. Gadson mentioned that the EQC is getting ready to do a statewide environmental justice seminar driven by the EPA. They are still looking for committee members to flesh it out in 4 areas. She is looking for ideas to develop young organizations that will deal with some of the issues that are important to youth, for example, a young woman who is planting trees in Jefferson County and got a group together, who then got involved with runoff and grew into a larger organization. She does not have time as one person to work with these organizations. They would also like to develop political education, down to the basic levels of what a “senate” is. She is seeking ideas to help develop these youth organizations for the environment and political education, because she mostly deals with adults in the community.

Ms. Duke asked if anyone was interested in contributions to the January newsletter on chemical reactions, with submissions due December 25.

Mr. Von Gruenigen mentioned that the Capitol Annex is having a biodiversity day in February run by the Kentucky Conservation Committee, the Jim Claypool Art & Writing Contest. He mentioned it even though the deadline is passed for this year because it’s such a great opportunity and one of the few times that legislators are available.

Ms. Stump announced that Dept. of Energy has a virtual solar energy story map on their website that educators could use for students to explore where solar energy is happening in KY. They are also working on a timeline for energy developments in KY since the 1800s to go on the website. They are also working with the Wild Rivers documentary people to film about the Main Street program. She will send the YouTube link when it is posted in 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 PM.