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**Barnegat Bay Partnership
Communications and Education Committee (CEC) Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2015 (9:30 a.m.) at BBP Office**

Present:

Members: Wes Dalzell (ReClam the Bay), Chris Claus (OC Parks), Lynette Lurig (NJDEP), Shari Kondrup (Brick MUA), Becky Laboy (OCSCD Alternate), Barbara Spinweber (EPA Alternate), Lisa Auermuller (JCNER), Karen Walzer (BBP); by phone: Angela Andersen (LBIF), Peter Brandt (EPA), Joel Mott (Pinelands Commission)

BBP Staff: Betsy Hyle, Stan Hales

Guests: John Zingis (Citizen Representative Alternate), George Murnyak (Citizen Representative Alternate), Clint Lehman (ReClam the Bay)

Members Absent: Scott Bruinooge (OCC)

Review and Approval of Meeting Minutes

Shari made a motion to approve the December 3, 2014 meeting minutes, seconded by Chris, all in favor.

CEC Membership

Two of the members resigned from the CEC, Chelsea Simkins (left her job at Marine Trades Association) and Helen Henderson (lack of time to attend meetings). With the resignations, the CEC has 11 members; the charter specifies a maximum of 15. There was a discussion about reaching out to potential new members. Suggestions included Tuckerton Seaport, Ocean County Library, Ocean County school district, and a business owner (*e.g.*, commercial fisherman or marina owner).

Action: Karen will reach out to potential new members.

2015 Education and Outreach Retreat

The retreat will be held on March 25th at the Lighthouse Center. The CEC discussed the components of the retreat. Each science researcher invited to present will have 10 minutes to talk about the general topic and his or her research, followed by a 5 minute Ignite presentation by an educator. Questions will be held for a panel discussion with the presenters after the conclusion of all talks. The general topics of the panel discussion will be translation of research results into effective outreach and ways to encourage citizen participation in science/stewardship. Angela agreed to be the panel moderator. Another component of the retreat will be a brainstorming session about collaborating on National Estuary Day/Week events. Lisa and Betsy agreed to moderate the brainstorming session, which will start before lunch and continue in the afternoon. It was also suggested that we invite previous recipients of CEC grants to set up displays about their successful projects and possibly participate in the panel discussion.

BBP Education Updates

Betsy asked CEC members to submit their ideas for a festival tagline to go with this year's poster panel artwork. She will send an email with the poster art, compile a list of suggested taglines, and will email the list to the CEC for a vote.

Communication and Education Grant Funding Opportunity (GFO)

The CEC received 16 pre-proposals for the 2015 GFO. At the conclusion of the regular meeting, any members associated with a pre-proposal recused themselves. Barbara, Shari, Lisa, Lynette, George, Stan, Karen, and Joel (by phone) stayed to participate in a separate meeting to discuss the pre-proposals.

Next CEC meeting

The next meeting will be February 18, 2015.