

September 10th 2020

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Meeting Recording: https://drive.google.com/file/d/1z0z6RHyp4cv_eWijxc-V0F3eN8GuaQN/view?usp=sharing

Attendees: Rob Pirani, HEP; Isabelle Stinnette, HEP; Rosana DaSilva, HEP; Elizabeth Balladares, HEP; Meredith Comi, NYNJ Baykeeper; Carrie Roble; Hudson River Park Trust; Shino Tanikawa, NYCSWCD; Margaret Flanagan, WA; Karen Argenti, BCEQ; Butler Elizabeth, EPA; Dan Birkett, EPA; Sara Powell, UWFP; Clay Sherman, NJDEP; Rebecca Hill, NJDEP, Nick Angarone, NJDEP; Bill Schultz, RRR; Hugh Carola, Hackensack RiverKeeper; Michelle McBean, FutureCity; Robert Buchanan, BOP; Paz, FutureCity, Louis Kleinman, WA; Elizabeth Blair; Tatiana Castro, BOP; Elisa Caref, Center for the Urban River; Lisa Bloodgood, NCA; Chris Girgenti, RIPA; Sara Malone; Emma Gildesgame, NEIWPC, Michelle Luebke; Clay Hiles, HRF

Agenda Item: [The latest on New Jersey's Climate Data](#)

- Rebecca Hill and Nick Angarone, with NJDEP's Bureau of Climate Resilience Planning, touched on major findings from the 2020 New Jersey Scientific Report on Climate Change as well as the status of New Jersey's Statewide Climate Change Resilience Strategy. Both efforts will help promote the resilience of New Jersey's communities from the current and anticipated impacts of climate change.
- Rebecca covered the major findings found in the executive summary of the report, which can be found [here](#). Focus areas part of the presentation are included below:
 - Greenhouse gases and climate pollutants
 - Temperature
 - Precipitation
 - Sea-level rise
 - Ocean acidification
 - Resources and Ecosystem Impacts
 - Research and Data Gaps
 - This is the first edition/version of the report and is expected to be amended every few years
- Nick covered current and future Initiatives underway at NJDEP:
 - July-Sept 2020: Offshore Wind Strategic Plan
 - Oct 2020: Global Warming Response Act 2050 report

- Oct-Dec 2020: Coastal Resilience Plan
- Oct-Dec 2020: Statewide Climate Change Resilience Strategy
- Dec 2020: Reform EO 215
- Dec 2020: Contract/Grant Program Assessment
- Jan-Mar 2021: NJDEP Climate Change Action Plans
- April 2021: NJPACT Climate Pollutant Reduction Proposals
- April 2021& Beyond: NJPACT Rule Proposal
- All activities are linked and are all pieces of the state’s larger climate change efforts.
- **Next Steps:** Continue to share updates and significant progress of statewide climate change strategy and provide additional input where necessary as NJ groups active in their communities.

Agenda Item: [Economic Analysis of NY/NJ Harbor Estuary, Defining “Clean Water”](#)

- With funding from EPA, NEIWPC is assessing the economic value of water-dependent and water enhanced sectors of the estuary. Emma Gildesgame from NEIWPC and Rob Pirani from HEP reviewed the study’s purpose, intended audience, and scope.
- CAC members were asked to help prioritize indicators (9) of clean water (and related uses) for consideration as this work is launched.
- Emma went over the [survey](#) put together to help prioritize clean water indicators and encouraged CAC members to share with other partners.
- **Next Steps:** NEIWPC will analyze results of the survey, share with other HEP workgroups and committees. HEP CAC will provide additional input where necessary to launch study and anticipates to use future meetings to share survey results and status of study once launched.

Agenda Item: [HEP Diversity, Equity, Inclusion \(DEIJ\) and Justice survey Results and Identified Priorities](#)

- Liz Balladares, HEP provided an update on the Improving Diversity, Equity, Inclusion (DEIJ) and Justice survey, coordinate by the CAC, and which was shared with the rest of the HEP network including but not limited to Management Committee, CAC, Water Quality Workgroup, Public Access Workgroup, Harbor Educators Group.
- Survey results showed that the top three learning areas of focus for HEP and the rest of its network are:
 - Increasing BIPOC voices at organizational level and supporting those already there
 - Incorporating and addressing BIPOC goals, concerns and priorities into long term organizational goals and missions
 - Increasing & elevating BIPOC voices in organizational events, programs and ongoing initiatives
 - The CAC was also asked to provide additional input on how HEP’s annual conference could be used as a stage to further the DEIJ efforts mentioned above

through sessions that encouraged community representation and awareness about these issues.

- **Next Steps:** the CAC will continue to support HEP's ongoing DEIJ efforts through participation in this year's conference, provide additional input and use future meetings to apply lessons/trainings that will help our network make significant progress towards our DEIJ goals.

Agenda Item: [City of Water Day 2020: In Your Neighborhood](#)

- As part of our quarterly stewardship highlight presentation, Hugh Carola, Program Director with Hackensack Riverkeeper provided an overview on their participation in this year's City of Water Day, September 12 2020.
- Hackensack Riverkeeper offered a fishing derby out of Laurel Hill Park in Secaucus NJ, over the Hackensack River. Hugh spoke about the ways the In Your Neighborhood grant was able to support their program and their protocols for ensuring the safety of their staff and participants.
- **Next Steps:** the CAC will continue to elevate the voices of our partners through stewardship highlights and share all current and upcoming stewardship initiatives that our partners are working on across the harbor estuary.