



A Program of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Hudson-Harbor Educators Work Group

September 29, 2022

Minutes

Shared Google Folder: <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13SSRnA9UtYWNGbBbxGX-o0qyYZKRdIRE?usp=sharing>

Attendees:

1. Ann Fraioli, Billion Oyster Project, Director of Education, afraioli@billionoysterproject.org
2. Annabel Posimato, NY State Parks Regional Ed team, Annabel.posimato@parks.ny.gov
3. Arden Feil
4. Artie Carlucci, volunteer, CURB
5. Bibi Calderaro, Graduate Center CUNY and independent artist/educator, bibicalder@gmail.com
6. Cathy Yuhas, High Tech High School of Hudson County Schools of Technology, cyuhas@hcstonline.org
7. Christina Tobitsch, Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, ctobitsch@bbpc.net
8. Chris Bowser, Hudson River NYSDEC, chris.bowser@dec.ny.gov
9. Christina Edsall, CURB, cedsall@sarahlawrence.edu
10. Ciara Scully, Shirley Chisholm State Park, Ciara.Scully@parks.ny.gov
11. Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper, dshapley@riverkeeper.org
12. Elisa Caref, BOP, ecaref@nyharbor.org
13. Hugh Carola, Hackensack Riverkeeper, hugh@hackensackriverkeeper.org
14. Ian Cleary, Environmental Educator 2, NYSDEC, ian.cleary@dec.ny.gov
15. Isa Del Bello, Education Director, Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy, idelbello@bbpc.net
16. Jake Madelone, Waterfront Alliance, jmadelone@waterfrontalliance.org
17. Jenna Otero, NYS Parks
18. Jennifer Bombardier, LES Ecology Center, jennifer@lesecolgycenter.org
19. Judith Weis, Rutgers University and HEP's STAC, jweis@newark.rutgers.edu
20. Katie Lamboy, Science Coordinator, CURB, Klamboy@sarahlawrence.edu
21. Laura Rapp, Jamaica Bay Rockaway Parks Conservancy, laura@jbrpc.org
22. Lisa Scheppke, American Littoral Society, lisa@littoralsociety.org
23. Luis Gonzalez, City Parks Foundation, lgonzalez@cityparksfoundation.org
24. Margie Turrin, LDEO, mkt@ldeo.columbia.edu
25. Marieke Bender, Battery Park City Authority. Marieke.bender@bpca.ny.gov
26. Marley Kern at Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy mkern@brooklynbridgepark.org
27. Rosana Pedra Nobre, Hudson River Foundation/NYNJ Harbor & Estuary Program, rosana@hudsonriver.org
28. Sara Eichner, Pratt SAVI, eichnersara@gmail.com
29. Tina Walsh, HRPT, twalsh@hrpt.ny.gov

Partner Updates

Where and How We're Using Local Waterways: Riverkeeper's Dan Shapley and Pratt SAVI's Sara Eichner shared that Riverkeeper, Save the Sound, and Pratt Institute's Hudson Access Project - with the support of HEP - are teaming together to identify where and how people use local waterways. Why now? New York State is asking for help identifying where and how people use the water, as it reconsiders what standards will be applied to all saline waters in the state. This includes all waters around New York City, all waters around Long Island, the Hudson River up to the Bear Mountain Bridge – and all tidal tributaries to these waters. The project partners are facilitating this effort through an online map-based survey available here: <https://wikimapping.com/water-recreation.html>. You can find additional details on the proposed rulemaking other opportunities for public participation from the New York State Department of Conservation [here](#). Please share this with your networks and be sure to take the survey to enter your programs – how many students wade into the water on an annual basis per site, etc.

Hope Spot for the New York-New Jersey Harbor Estuary: Judith Weis provided an overview of Sylvia Earle's program, Mission Blue, to designate Hope Spots to bring honor and support for important waterways. Judith has proposed nominating the Harbor Estuary given how the last 50 years of activities to improve the estuary. She is seeking support from committee members to further advance the application in the form of any videos or images to highlight the advancements that this estuary has. Letters of Support along with pictures would go a long way in the application!

New Data Analysis Curriculum: Eli Caref shared that BOP just published new, free curriculum! The curriculum includes two units to engage students on how to deal with large data sets. One on Harbor Oyster Restoration using Google Sheets. There are real and huge data sets that students can work on over three chapters. The second unit engages students using ArcGIS and esri StoryMaps, how to look at maps, and think about what is needed for a restoration project across five chapters. Check out the curriculum here: <https://bopuiprod.azurewebsites.net/education/curriculum-units>. Billion Oyster Project's published curriculum, this one included, can be found at data.bop.nyc under the "Education" menu.

A Day in the Life of the Hudson and Harbor: Chris Bowser announced that October 13th will be the 20th Anniversary of the Day in the Life! A virtual training will be held today (9/29) on how to use different data sets from A Day in the Life in the classroom. Bowser shared a link for all those who are interested in participating: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83515071182?pwd=VVZOQWxDQVUwNIY2Uyt5VlJSdkdLdz09>. Generally, trainings are not recorded, however, if you are unable to participate in today's training please reach out to Bowser, Margie or Laurel. Next week, there will be in person training or refresher training for partners who will be participating in the Day in a Life, one will be held on October 6th 4-6pm at Pier 84 and Norrie Point. For Day in the Life Refreshers on Thursday October 6 (4-6pm), please email rebecca.houser@dec.ny.gov for details.

Curriculum Creation and Professional Development Research: Ann Fraioli provided an update that BOP hired a consultant, Nate Dudley, the founding principal of the Harbor School, to conduct research on

topics that BOP has been interested in. Nate will be joining BOP to research best practices for curriculum creation, professional development, and creating/maintaining partnerships. BOP strives to share what they have learned with others, those in this group, and there are several members that can provide insight to this work. Nate will be reaching out to some of you to request an interview. Once completed, we will share the results with this group.

Wilderness Inquiry on October 10-12th, 22nd, and 23rd: Rosana Pedra Nobre shared Wilderness Inquiry's Canoemobile programs are coming back to New York and New Jersey this fall! The Wilderness Inquiry crew returns to our shores with canoes, outdoor educators, and programming for the whole community. Free programs are available to the public on the [Harlem River at Roberto Clemente State Park on October 10th](#) and on Saturday and Sunday, October 22 and 23 at Dundee Island Park in Passaic NJ.

Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education: Hugh Carola shared that ANJEE's 6th Annual Autumn Outdoor Conference is being held on September 30th and October 1st. This year programs for formal and non-formal educators at Duke Farms and will be held completely outdoors. The winter conference will be held in January 2023 focused on Educating for Change: <https://anjee.org/winter-conference.html>.

Brooklyn Bridge Park Announcement: Isa Del Bello shared that BBP received a \$1M grant to further expand the Conservancy's Environmental Education Center! More details will be released soon.

Harbor & Estuary Program's Annual Conference: Rosana Pedra Nobre shared to save the date on HEP's Restoration focused conference this year to be held virtually November 29th and 30th and an in-person day likely December 1st.

Hudson-Harbor Educators' Work Group: Tina Walsh wrapped up the meeting indicating that the work group's leadership has been thinking about hosting an in-person summit for this community. Open suggestions for what you would like to see at this summit, please reach out to Tina, Bowser, Rosana, Ann, or Cathy. Some suggestions shared included creating and analyzing participant surveys and culturally responsive teaching in an informal setting.