

2015 Northeast Joint Summer Meeting Planning Committee

Teleconference – Jan. 8, 2015 (1-2:00PM)

Notes:

1. Welcome and Introductions (All are present)
 - Jon Wraith – Dean UNH, AHS/NERA (Host)
 - Lisa Townson – NEED (Host)
 - Marge Joy – Meeting Coordinator (Host)
 - Christopher Streeter – CARET (Host)
 - Jim Shirk – CARET
 - Eddie Gouge – CARET
 - Dan Lerner – NEED
 - Nancy Bull – NEED
 - Cameron Faustman – NERA
 - Dan Rossi – NERA
 - Rubie Mize – NERA (Recorder)

2. Host Update
 - a. Dates – July 6-8, 2015 (July 6th as a travel date)
 - Tours - perhaps two to choose from, to showcase UNH aquaculture and/or agriculture research and Extension activities. May include marine research, organic dairy farm or winery.
 - Tours held on Monday - July 6, and optional
 - CARET likes first hand experience and tours give them opportunity to see Land-grant in action. Helps them understand how local agriculture ties into the research and Extension programming and opportunities.

 - b. Hotel Information – Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel, Portsmouth, NH
 - 60 rooms reserved per night July 6 & 7 at group rate of \$189
 - Portsmouth location accessible from Boston or Manchester airports.

 - c. Meals/Social Events
 - Meals are provided and included in the registration. We need to meet minimum obligation with hotel.
 - Contract with hotel includes one dinner that will be included in the registration. Marge will check if hotel will be flexible if we decide to have dinner outside the hotel and use a different caterer. Sheraton can also cater outside event, if we prefer.
 - Suggestion is to have BBQ/clambake event at Woodlands Horticulture Farm. Lisa has good contacts for caterers, if we don't use Sheraton.

d. Registration

- Marge had shared a breakdown of projected expenses, and suggested fees to covers costs. The Planning Committee agreed that the UNH hosts should decide what fee to charge to cover the costs, and to meet commitments with hotel.

3. Program

a. Expected Outcomes

- A Program that will attract as many CARET and Northeast Directors to attend the summer meeting
- Outcomes that will improve how we do business in our institutions, and that will assist planning and strategizing activities individually or with other states, or together as a region.
- Learning from one another, as we encounter and deal with issues differently, is most important outcome of meetings like this.
- Productive use of time that will lead to follow-up actions after the meeting
- More visibility for issues like Climate Change. For Hub to be successful in the Region, the summer meeting is a good opportunity to engage all partners. Climate is a big issue, so how do we get organized around it?
- Come up with policy decision, and pull groups together to work on grant proposals
- CARET outcome - Better understanding of work they do across Extension & Research

b. Overall Agenda

- Optional tours on Monday, July 6
- General meeting on Tuesday, July 7
- Individual and groups meet jointly on Wednesday, July 8

c. Themes

- Climate Hubs
- NEED suggestions –
 - Complicated legal and ethical issues, e.g., dealing with producer demands such as medical marijuana, industrial hemp
 - Using technology for educational purposes, e.g. drones.
 - Responsibility based budgeting – some of our institutions are into this, others are not. What does it mean for Extension?
 - Also some interest in these:
 - PSU's "Atlas strategy" for on-line processes. We could show the prototype-how to be more efficient.
 - Program evaluators meeting together.
- Themes that are cutting edge or potentially controversial topics that Extension and Research may face. Topics that will draw interesting and compelling discussion.
- How do we tie in these controversial/provocative topics to sustainable agriculture vs. conventional agriculture; possibly sustainable agriculture in times of controversy

- Suggestion is to have 2-3 topics that we can get consensus on, and have a subcommittee work out the details (theme/topics, speakers, goals, outcomes etc.)
- d. Speakers
- Subcommittee will come up with potential speakers
 - Need ample lead time to get external speakers
4. Assignments
- Subcommittee members - Lisa Townson, Dan Lerner, Chris Streeter, Cameron Faustman and one more NERA (Dan Rossi will contact someone by email).
 - Rubie will arrange call(s) for this team.
 - Nancy Bull and Dan Rossi will be facilitators.
 - All Planning Committee members were asked to send their ideas to Dan Rossi and Nancy Bull as a starting point for the subcommittee's discussion
5. Future Calls/Meetings
- Tuesday – Feb. 10 10:30-11:30AM for the Planning Committee
 - Possibly a face-to-face breakfast meeting at the CARET-AHS Meeting on March 2-5 in Washington, DC
 - Call in March
6. Other Business
- Invite 1890s in the region – UMES, DESU and WV State Univ.
Nancy Bull and Dan Rossi will send emails to 1890s Extension and Research Directors to give them a head's up. Dan will also inform Carolyn Brooks and Nancy will inform L. Washington Lyons, their counterparts for the 1890 institutions
Formal letters of invitation will be sent from the NEED and NERA Chairs.
Perhaps additional 9 attendees if 1890s will attend
Rubie will give Marge the contact info for the 1890s
 - Jim Shirk raised the possibility of partnering with another region (South) for the 2016 summer meeting. Nancy and Dan will discuss with their respective groups.

Call ended at 1:54PM.