

**Minutes of the NCCC212 Business meeting chaired by Kim Lewers
Beltsville, MD, Wednesday, October 23, 2013**

Old business

Minutes of the previous meeting were provided (Oct. 30, 2012, Clearwater Beach, FL)
Discussion: Amend minutes to correct misspelling of names

Move to approve: Penny Perkins-Veazie

Seconded: Pat Moore

Vote = unanimous

Future meetings

2014:

The 2014 meeting will be in Oregon – volunteered by Chad Finn to be chaired by Bob Martin (who wasn't at the last meeting); this meeting will now be led, officially, by B. Strik at OSU so the meeting may not be impacted by any future sequester. Note....Bernadine was not able to attend the last meeting either (note the irony). In reality, Bernadine, Bob, and Chad will co-host. The group proposed to change the meeting to late September (considering the shutdown and that the meeting was initially being hosted by the USDA-ARS in Corvallis). Bernadine presented that harvest is still on at that time of year and that in Oregon we'd like to maintain the traditional meeting time. She will check on hotel availability planning on Monday, Oct. 20 travel day with meetings starting on Tuesday Oct. 21. Plan on one or 1.5 days of reports (ideally one). The group enthusiastically supported a proposed day-long tour to visit a couple of farms and the NCGR/LBF and NWREC.

2015:

This meeting will be hosted by Elina Coniva, at Auburn University. Location would be at Auburn Hotel and closest airport is Atlanta (about 1 hr 45 min drive to Auburn, but there are shuttles from airport to main campus/hotel). A possible grower visit would be 1 hour 45 min away from hotel and conference site. For input please contact Elina at edc0001@auburn.edu

New business

2016:

Becky Hughes who is on the organizing committee mentioned that from August 14-17, 2016 the ISHS Strawberry Symposium will be in Quebec City. An invitation was extended to hold the NCCC-212 in conjunction with the ISHS meeting if it could be moved to August. ASHS is August 8-11 in 2016 in Atlanta. This is awfully close to the ISHS meeting (sigh by Brent Black) – would be best to hold NCCC-212 during the ISHS meeting (available times) or extending it some rather than going earlier.

The group discussed the timing of the meeting as reports would mainly focus on what was being done as data for 2014 wouldn't be finished/analyzed.

Eric Hanson mentioned MSU might be able to host at the more traditional time.

Marvin Pritts suggested that the group has time to see how the Symposium program develops to see if there is time during the ISHS meeting to have reports so that the Symposium wouldn't be extended (too long a trip). Might be more difficult for government employees to go to an international meeting (?)

A group vote supported the possibility of exploring having the 2016 NCCC-212 meeting be held in conjunction with the ISHS Strawberry Symposium. Concern was raised that the size of the group could become large if colleagues from other countries (attending the ISHS meeting) are able to attend. Extending an "invitation" to certain colleagues to attend the NCCC-212 "closed" meeting was proposed.

NCCC-212 reporting (Vance Baird)

Annual accomplishment report is due 60 days after the meeting. Mid-term Review Report is due for the NCCC-212 in December; this includes: 1) progress report [focuses on meeting the objectives]; 2) coordination and linkages; 3) information exchange; and 4) attendance participation.

Farm Bill news (Vance Baird)

Vance Baird's understanding is that a joint committee will discuss the Bill. Presently the House and Senate versions are vastly different in key aspects/cuts wanted in the Bill (e.g. in the SNAP, subsidies and immigration reform). The House would like to see the SCRI funding become a permanent part of the Farm Bill, might be similar in the Senate, but funding allocation per year are different. The longer it takes for the Farm Bill to become approved, the longer it will be before the RFP is released. Traditionally, there is ~90 days between the RFP and the submission due date – they might shorten this to 60 or 30 days. Thus, it is likely there will not be an SCRI for 2013. If it goes to continuing resolution there is no SCRI. The same principle applies to NIFA-OREI and New Farmer grants.

NABREW (Nick Vorsa)

New Jersey is hosting the North American Blueberry Research and Extension Workers' Conference from June 22-24, 2014.

Adjournment

Move: Penny Perkins-Veazie

Second: Bernadine Strik (so she could stop typing)

Vote: heartily approved by all

(minutes taken by Bernadine S.)