

**Report and Recommendations**  
**Northeast Multistate Activities Committee Meeting**  
**via Teleconference**  
**Friday, June 02, 2017**

**In attendance: Eric Wommack (NERA/Delaware), Pat Vittum (NEED/Massachusetts), Gary Thompson (NERA/Pennsylvania), Mike O'Neill (NEED), Rick Rhodes (NERA), David Leibovitz (NERA)**

**1.) Preliminary discussion**

- Consideration of harder, earlier deadlines for submission of electronic materials. NERA received reviews and requests to write on the night before the scheduled MAC meeting. Gary mentioned he would like a harder deadline for submissions of proposals and reviews, so all can be read in advance of the MAC meetings. For late submissions, perhaps an electronic, non-regular MAC meeting can be convened via email.

**2.) NEED/NERA Planning Grants Recommendations**

- 17-1, Margarita Lopez-Urbe, PSU, Meeting Stakeholder Needs for Pollinators in the Mid-Atlantic Region
  - **Recommendation: Do not fund**
- 17-2, Beth Holtzman, UVM, An Integrated Program for Women Producers in the Northeast
  - **Recommendation: Do not fund**
- 17-3, Shannon Dill, UMD, MidAtlantic Outreach and Education: Women in Agriculture
  - **Recommendation: Do not fund**
- 17-4, Ann Hazelrigg, UVM, NE Vegetable IPM Working Group Meeting
  - **Recommendation: Do not fund**
- 17-5, Doug Arbogast, WVU, A Collaborative Extension Program for Developing Sustainable Recreation Economies
  - **Recommendation: Do not fund**
- 17-6, Amanda Kinchla, UMASS, Increasing Local Food Production with Value-Added Processing in the Northeast
  - **Recommendation: Maybe fundable**
- **MAC Recommendation: Re-boot the NEED/NERA Planning Grant process. Write a new RFP for the group's consideration. The overall idea: a two-page preproposal to secure a 'million dollar' grant.**

**3.) Requests to Write**

- NECC1200 (Equine Clinical Studies) Re-write
  - **Approved request to re-write coordinating committee**

**4.) Request to Approve Peer Reviewed Project**

- NE\_TEMP1962 - Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Other Green Environments: Understanding Human and Community Benefits and Mechanisms, 10/2017-9/2022. [Renewal of NE 1962]

- **Unanimous approval**
- NE\_TEMP1231 - Collaborative Potato Breeding and Variety Development Activities to Enhance Farm Sustainability in the Eastern US., 10/2017-9/2022. [Renewal of NE 1231]
  - Longstanding program, historically productive. Northeast potato growing is a different operation than e.g. Idaho and this group makes a good argument for that.
  - **Unanimous approval**
- NE\_TEMP1020 - Coordinated Evaluation of Winegrape Cultivars, 10/2017-9/2022. [Renewal of NE 1020]
  - Okay fundamentally. Some references outside the northeast, particularly Colorado seem out of place. They seem to divorce the viticulture from the oenology. Large focus on the viticulture; good grapes but what is the process for making them into a decent wine? The sensory quality, marketing of the wine is important.
  - **Unanimous approval with a caveat to provide the technical committee with an opportunity to illustrate the link between viticulture and oenology.**

#### 5.) **Administrative Adviser Assignment Recommendations**

- NRSP 6 - The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (Solanum) Germplasm, 10/1015-9/2020 [Ed Ashworth: retired]
  - Fred Servello does not wish to obtain Ed Ashworth's AA role
  - **MAC recommends discussing this AA assignment with the full NERA body**
- NRSP 9: National Animal Nutrition Program, 10/2015-9/2020 [Replace Cameron Faustman]
  - **MAC recommends discussing this AA assignment with the full NERA body**