

SAMAB Executive Committee Meeting
11/16/12 – Southern Research Station

Present – Rick, Susan F, Scott, Judy, Crystal & Adam

Highlights and Action Items

- Discussion of financials and budget for 2013 conference
 - **Crystal to research SNRLG as a line item and update the group**
 - **DENR will donate \$1,000 to the conference**

- Discussion on the future of SAMAB
 - There should be a “core group” of up to seven participants (not including IA staff) to attend EC meetings and make decisions.
 - Need to whittle down the EC list of 41 names and come up with three new names to fill EC slots.
 - **Adam will formulate a list of 1) members of the new EC consisting of Scott, Susan F, Judy, Rick and up to three other representatives, and 2) the remaining 37 names into a representation of collaborative organizations.**
 - **The EC will find remaining committee members.**
 - Further discussions will be held after the spring conference.

- Monthly Meetings
 - Scott has set up a SharePoint Account for meetings.
 - As new EC Chair, he would prefer to have monthly EC meetings on SharePoint, rather than force any one party to drive long distances. This way we can share thoughts, notes, etc., and continue to use a conference call line.
 - Monthly meetings will continue with the “new EC” group in attendance.

- Conference Planning
 - No call for proposals for spring meeting. **EC will solicit speakers.**
 - Group would like to make sure we’re on track with speakers, planning by the end of the year and preferably before.
 - **EC will email all panelist names and bio’s to Adam no later than December 14.**
 - Judy has secured Libby Smith and Dr. Todd Cherry to be panelists for the Economic section.
 - **Scott has agreed to head up the Economic panel.**
 - There was a discussion on who would plan the conference. Should we pay someone?
 - **Adam has volunteered to continue planning the conference as part of his obligations with the SAMAB EC. As a side note, Adam does not feel that the CFIA needs to be paid an extra amount for this service, as was part of the discussion.**
 - **Adam will provide a list of attendees from the registration list at the conference for networking.**

- **Judy will provide data sets to include in the handouts.**
- **We will hang on to the two classrooms in case they're needed for Group Solutions.**
- Group Solutions
 - We need a before, during and after survey to be accurate.
 - Vern needs to know exactly what we want to accomplish at the end of the conference and needs a statement of what we need.
 - (Paraphrasing)
 - Susan:* "We've developed a tool to evaluate and manage our region, and here's the reason we need it and how it can help you"
 - Scott:* "The Southern Appalachians are a unique region. We recognize the joint need in how to support each other and move forward. Does the vitality index meet those needs? Could it meet your needs if it were altered? What will you use it for? What's missing from the index and can your organization support it?"
 - Judy:* "The best value in the Vitality Index is not using it for your organization's personal use, but to get the index out to local affiliations who might be able to use it. Keep in mind that your organization may not be the principal user of the index.
 - Rick:* Rick's points are on his handout that was sent to everyone on October 23rd. (If anyone needs a copy, I'll be happy to send one)
 - Pay for group solutions will be \$5,000.
 - **Next step is to have a conference call with Jim Fox and Vern included. This call will be on November 27 at 9:00.**
 - Group would like to know what happens during an interactive session.
- Other
 - Scott is now the official chair.
 - The conference will double as the annual meeting.
 - We will start to meet every third Monday at 1:00 via conference call
 - Adam will add Anne Keller to conference planning meetings.