

IPM Voice Conference Call Notes

March, 5 2010 2:30-3:30 pm CST

Notes prepared by Leigh Presley, IPM Institute Project Assistant

Submit any additions or corrections to Leigh Presley lpresley@ipminstitute.org

Participants:

Lori Berger
Hassan Bolkan
Scott Hutchins
Carrie Koplinka-Loehr
Norm Leppla
Pam Marrone
Bob Rosenberg
Michael Rozyne
Jim VanKirk

1. Forming Subcommittees

- Subcommittees will include steering committee representatives and invite participation from others.
- Four subcommittees: governance, advisory, membership & fundraising and IPM advocacy. Charge to groups includes recruiting other members who have shown interest in IPM Voice.
- Will need to sketch out guidance for subgroups, steering committee will approve all decisions made by subcommittees.
- **Governance subcommittee** - Look at National Sustainable Ag Commission (NSAC) as example; NSAC provides representation for groups that lobby and those that choose not to lobby. Governance committee would work on structure, legal issues, IRS status. Will also propose how to make decisions/vote, give approval and develop bylaws.
- **Advocacy subcommittee** – Initial purpose is to educate and inform, stopping short of lobbying. Will gather information and build a structure to inform whoever should be aware of key issues. Will also propose initial issues, e.g., IPM funding, to work on.
- **Advisory subcommittee** - Will propose an advisory group structure and initial membership for individuals that cannot be formal participants (i.e., vote on decisions) including individuals from the EPA, USDA, etc.
- **Membership/finance subcommittee** - Will focus on awareness building, developing support/startup funds to cover legal fees, postage, etc.
- All members of steering committee are encouraged to share thoughts/ideas on subcommittees even if they are not members of a particular subcommittee.

2. Draft Solicitation Letter

- Intention is to get something out soon to begin generating startup funds.
- The letter is to be sent out far and wide, including contacts in a list assembled by the IPM Institute of 15,000 professionals with interest in IPM. Subcommittee members are invited to send letter out to any additional contacts.
- Letter/card will include sentence stating that the IPM Institute is only managing funds for IPM Voice.
- Letter will include note stating that each steering committee member has already contributed.
- Separate bank account will be created with Tom and Jim as signers.
- Option for staying informed/receiving emails will be added to the reply card.
- Letter will include what donations will fund, list of concrete expenditures. Income and expenses will be reported to contributors and on the website on regular basis.
- Charge to membership/finance group should include developing a projected budget and list of member benefits.
- Membership/finance committee will take on developing website a bit more before letter is sent out.
- All information including call notes will be posted on website to maximize transparency.

3. Steering committee composition and vacancies

- Carrie will work on contacting possible replacements for steering committee position vacancy (university based research--Dan Cooley).
- Becky Sideman at University of New Hampshire is the backup for Dan Cooley.
- May be helpful to put together organizational chart of steering committee, subcommittees to show hierarchy of IPM Voice on website. Leigh will put one together to post on website and draft a call for subcommittee volunteers.

Next meeting: TBA, items on agenda will include determining a time and place for a face-to-face meeting, if possible.