

MAA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 25, 2020

Zoom Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

Anne Gobes, Judy Mullins, Tim Whalen, Kate Whalen and Cindy Randall

Unable to attend: Ginny Rebar

Topics:

- ❖ Anne opened the meeting at 11:30 AM
- ❖ Cindy spoke about the membership invoice she created and asked for our feedback on the format of the invoice and how she should send it out to the membership; via email or snail mail? The Board agreed with the format and agreed email would be the best way to reach members. We could then send an email acknowledgement when payment is received.
 - It was agreed that Cindy will send out an introduction to our members in November explaining the new payment for membership process.
 - It was also agreed that Cindy will send out the invoices in early December with a request for remittance by January 1.
- ❖ Tim and Kate spoke about the MAA membership license plate. Kate had done a mockup and the Board all agreed on the design.. Tim got a cost of \$5.01 ea. for a qty. of 50, \$4.50 ea. for a qty. of 75 and \$4.06 for a qty. of 100. The Board agreed on ordering 100. These will be given to the members when they either renew their membership or become a new member. Members include Professional, Associate and Youth. Kate will get the plates ordered and Cindy will send a reimbursement check to Kate.
- ❖ Anne asked Judy about the online voting results for changes to our bylaws agreed upon at the last annual member meeting. Judy had sent out a message to all the members and received an affirmative response back from a voting quorum of the membership (currently have 25 members) to proceed with initiating voting by email when a membership vote is needed. The By-Laws will be amended to reflect this change. The Board was in agreement.
- ❖ Kate discussed ideas for the newsletter. She suggested using some of the ideas that Cape Newagen and Northern Solstice use in their Facebook and Instagram postings of farm happenings. Maybe include how to list your farm items in Open Herd for members who may not know or have forgotten that their membership allows them the opportunity to do this for free or how to set up an Etsy shop to market their

items if they don't have a farm shop. Anne suggested that she and Kate meet by Zoom again to discuss newsletter topics.

- ❖ Judy asked if we hadn't had a member that had volunteered to take over as Secretary for the Board. There had been, but then that member declined due to personal reasons. Judy will continue as she is available and if not, other Board members will rotate taking minutes until position is filled.
- ❖ Anne said the Department of Agriculture has stickers that we can purchase that state "Real Maine" and if we had our own farm stickers we could add them to it to use as a give-away. Anne will check out the cost.
- ❖ Anne brought up Open Farm Day, and that the state was looking at conducting virtual events. She has worked with Anne Trenholm to update the MAA listing on the new Real Maine website. Member farms can use this venue for advertising as well. Each farm needs to set up their own account on Real Maine.
- ❖ Anne said that she spoke with Andy Tardie of Aroostook Fiber Mill. Andy and Roxanne Tardy are new members of MAA. They had been members years ago. He would like the opportunity to add to his Mill banner that he is "a Proud Member of Maine Alpaca Association", using the MAA logo. The Board discussed this and felt it would be no different than any other member displaying the Maine Alpaca Association logo membership in reference to their farms or business. The Board agreed that Andy could add MAA to his banner.
- ❖ Board agreed to meet virtually during the month of September, a date and time to be determined.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM

Respectfully submitted:
Judy Mullins - Secretary