

MAA BOARD MEETING AGENDA
October 13, 2018
Applebee's - Augusta Agenda topics:

Attendees: Anne Gobes, Ginny Rebar, Mike O'Brien, Marilyn Plowman, Tim and Kate Whalen
Unable to attend: Judy Mullins

1. Membership dues accounting 2018: Anne reported that we had 30 farm members, 28 are on Open Herd. Two farms do not want to be on Open Herd which prevents them from being listed on the Maine Farm page.
2. Budget 2019 Marilyn reported that we were not making money at this point and that the dues we are taking in go back out for payment for the year activities. Discussion was held to keep all monies on general fund. We need to reach out to the smaller farms to campaign for membership.
3. November Meeting 11/3/2018: Discussion – Working with Alpacas and Youth: Anne reported that she contacted both FAA and UMaine Coop Extension 4-H. FAA could not make our member meeting on a Saturday. The active groups and the main functioning group with student officers were in the northern part of the state. Alisha Targonski from 4-H Kennebec County has agreed to talk to our members on our November Meeting.
4. January Member Meeting 2019: Board Positions End / Renewal Dates – Both Anne and Marilyn's positions are expiring.
5. March Member meeting 2019: Discussion -Topic idea: Sorting and Skirting Fleeces. Board members had lengthy discussions on costs, speakers, ideas, member needs etc. for our March 2019 meeting. Kate agreed to send board members a packet from AOA on alpaca ownership that we might want to use for advertising. Anne agreed to reach out to local members who are trained in working with blankets and fleeces. A member recommended Wini LeBrec but board members felt the costs for her class was more than membership would want to pay. At least 12 people needed to commit with a cost of 150 per person. Kate agreed to reach out to a local Maine sorter that she knows. Anne and Kate will organize beginning the search for a speaker and Anne will send out a member survey to gauge interest and willingness to pay. Discussion about including others and charging a slight increase to offset costs.
6. 2019 Dates:
 - a. Maine AG Trade Shows January 14-17, 2019: Discussion – Mike will take all three days as he is able to commit and sells quite a bit to make it worth his time. Anne and Ginny both will take some time selling and working the booth. Marilyn will check if we paid for Ag Trade show booth.
 - b. March Ag Day at the Hall of Flags- date to be determined.
7. Miscellaneous
 - a. MAA membership to Maine Farm Bureau: Discussion- all voted and agreed to become members. Farm Bureau supports legislative action related to agriculture. A check was

written for membership. Anne will check if they prorate each year and submit for 2019 membership.

- b. Members discussed and reviewed the Fiber Frolic. This past year we paid for an extra booth (65.00 plus a late fee) so members could sell. We had one member other than board members who came to sell and run our booth during the two-day fair. Discussion was held about going back to the one booth for less fees. A motion was brought to give it another year so that we can continue to offer the benefit of a point of sale for members interested. All agreed to give it another year with two booths at a cost of 65.00 to MAA.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Gobes, President