

February 2, 2014

Minutes of the Maine Alpaca Association Board of Directors meeting held February 1, 2014

Attendees: Lois Brace, Alan Russo, Mike O'Brien, Virginia Rebar, Ann Sylvester, Darlene Herbert

Voted on positions: President, Lois Brace
Vice President, Alan Russo
Secretary, Darlene Herbert
Livestock Event Coordinator & Communications, Ann Sylvester
State Livestock Education Liaison, Virginia Rebar
Marketing Coordinator, Mike O'Brien

Lois wants two people handling emails and that will be herself and Ann. They are also going to work together on getting a new member packet set up.

The website needs updating. Some businesses listed are no longer processing fiber. Lois will get in touch with Janis and Bill to find out what they need to get the site updated.

The newsletter is being coordinated by Jill. We were all in agreement that we need to promote upcoming events. Lois will submit the dates of the events as she gets them confirmed. Currently we know: Fiber Frolic, June 7-8, 9-4 at Windsor Fair Grounds, AgriDay, March 12, at the Statehouse. Virginia will be handling the AgriDay. Ann will be confirming dates for the MALA event in South Portland that was discussed at the annual meeting.

The booth set up needs to have business cards from all members. Please send 10 cards to: Darlene Herbert, 989 Wings Mills Road, Belgrade, ME 04917.

We discussed lowering the membership fee to \$50.00, it was not passed.

Associate membership was discussed and after reading the bylaws we can offer membership to anyone with an interest in alpacas. Businesses who choose to become members will be advertised on our website as long as they remain a member. They will also receive the same packet all new members receive.

The search continues for mills to make a Made in Maine product discussed at the last meeting. We can update the mill information on the website through this search. Darlene will look into a Fiber Mill on Block Island.

Lois will be contacting Tammy to find out what other fairs MAA participates in.

Mike is going to find out about a possible telecommunication webinar possibly once a month. He is also going to find out how we go about getting a downloadable app for smartphones that would direct people to the website listing all the MAA farms. We will

be doing radio advertisements for Open Farm Day, Fiber Frolic and MALA they will direct people to the web page.

Website pictures and advertising must rotate. The page needs to be current.

Seminars going on at farms: attendees should RSVP, offer to bring refreshments.

Parasites at Jill's, 3-5, 2/5, Fiber at Pam's, 3-5, 2/19. If they are set up early enough they should be listed in the newsletter.

Ann is working on how to use constant contact.

We agreed on a fee of no more than \$100.00 for a speaker at meetings.

The next Board meeting will be March 8, 11 am in Kennebunkport, at Pam Drew's farm.

We will be developing an agenda for the membership meeting.

Next membership meeting is tentatively March 22, at noon at Margaritas in Augusta 11:30-2:00. Ann will be confirming with Margaritas.

Lois wants board members to send ideas for the newsletter to her so she can sort through them and send them on to Jill.