

Calpaca BOD Minutes

May 11, 2015

7pm--Skype

Call to order at 7:10

Attendees Karen Ball, Lisa Beatty, Sandy Wallace, Steve Aitchison, Karen Kelly

Review/approval of minutes of BOD meeting April 13, 2015 Approved unanimously with one minor change. Sandy moved that BOD approve future BOD minutes within 3 days of them being sent out, assuming they are sent out shortly after the meeting. Approved unanimously.

Membership Update—Phyllis Walker/PacaShack is the only new member.

There was a glitch with PayPal not communicating with the Membership Director about new paid membership applications. We need to see if the system can be made to work more smoothly. At this time it's not clear that anyone is notified when there is any payment (for anything) via PayPal. Instead, the Treasurer must check manually/on line. Hopefully we can arrange for an automatic receipt to be sent out. So for now, we hope to have the Treasurer notified of all payments received, and she can notify the Membership Director as needed.

Status of Directory and website membership listing: In progress. Will not be done by the time of the Membership meeting, but it is coming. Steve will be turning "on" and "off" the appropriate member websites in OpenHerd.

May Membership Meeting Update and Agenda:

Who from the BOD will be present?

Steve Aitchison and Karen Ball will come. SLW will produce an agenda and email it to Karen and Steve. Also will email minutes of last Membership meeting, for approval.

Is there a member who could draft a disclaimer for any listings of professional services we might have? Probably not necessary if we are using Camelid Central to list services/providers, but it might be good to have a disclaimer for linking to these resources from our website.

Do we need to announce that the BOD voted unanimously to stop routine funding of the Endowment once it reaches \$50K? Yes: Probably we do need to make the announcement. We should let Rick Brady know about it in advance, and he can tell us how near we are to the \$50K goal. The announcement should be made in a positive manner—we should focus on the fact that now we can use our fund raising for a new project/projects. Karen Ball agreed to contact Rick about the BOD vote.

Other Agenda items for Membership Meeting:

Membership Report-Please announce that members should contact Steve ASAP if any changes need to be made in the Directory.

Ag Day Update—Perhaps Charlene Schmid can do the update. She did a great write up for the Connection.

Update/Feedback on California Classic--?perhaps by Charlene Schmid

Update on West Coast Alpaca Show—perhaps by Laurie Findlay?

Treasurer's Update-Hopefully Charlene Schmid can give an update on the Cal Classic finances.

Update on Camelid Central as a possible e-location for hay purchasing, education, Farm Insurance, Veterinarians, and other ventures? Karen Ball contacted Jeff, who owns/ owned Liberty Alpacas. Free registration for individual farms and businesses farms and businesses—hopefully all BOD will all register. It looks like a very resource-oriented website that can accommodate our needs. Hopefully we can have a link to Camelid Central on our website.

Karen Ball identified a problem for registering Calpaca with Camelid Central: we will need to give an email address and physical mailing address. Perhaps we can have a generic email address that rolls over to the new president, etc. Steve will discuss with Joe Preston of OpenHerd.

Educational Seminar update on hold for now. Members felt that an appropriate use of Camelid Central would be for listings of vets, hay suppliers, etc. However, educational modules should be a membership benefit and accessed via our website.

Review of California Classic Charlene hopes to have a final report this week. There may yet be a few bills to pay. Accounting still needs to be completed. It appears we may have broken even or made a profit—far better than we had originally anticipated.

What would we do differently next year?

Board members felt that the show is sustainable in the present format. Membership really enjoyed it—at least 3 owners who hadn't attended a show in years, came for this show. People liked the lower price. As we had hoped, there were a number of entries from the Norco show because we extended the registration deadline.

Vendors were happy with the foot traffic and the layout was very good. Charlene did a great job publicizing and promoting the show. Some concern that we may “burn out” Charlene—BOD wants to be sure that she gets the support of the membership because she put so much into the show, and is willing to do it again.

Karen Ball suggested that we might offer to all attendees the opportunity to pay for a service to clean their stalls. Perhaps Calpaca would split the proceeds with the service (perhaps a 4H group or FFA?). We might make this available in the registration for the show. Steve will talk to Charlene about this.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer sent out a report to the BOD.

Karen Kelly moved that small accounts for shows be closed, and unified in one account. Seconded by Steve, and approved unanimously. We will simply allocate and do appropriate bookkeeping.

Taxes are filed. Insurance paid for the year.
Not entirely clear if we made a profit or not on Cal Classic.

West Coast Alpaca Show Update-flyer went out by email today.

The National Heirloom Expo (www.theheirloomexpo.com) Sandy will contact the Heirloom Expo organizers about a Calpaca booth or booths. We can present this to Calpaca membership as an opportunity for members to rent a booth together and promote end product. Karen Ball suggested that this may be a prototype of a service Calpaca can offer—to identify venues such as this, and bring together members for their own benefit. We do ask that members represent Calpaca and have available Calpaca literature and information for the public.

Sandy will contact the Heirloom Expo organizers about purchasing a booth or booths for members, and locations that may be favorable for us to promote our animals as well.

The Seal Exists!! All Hail the Seal!! (Let's put the Seal to bed...) Karen Kelly procured the seal and will be mailing it shortly to the Secretary, who will likely put it in her refrigerator for safekeeping.

Round Robin

In our April BOD meeting we agreed that the June BOD meeting should address possible legislative goals we might seek for California—meat processing, sales tax, etc. I'm just putting this here so it doesn't get dropped in the next BOD Agenda!

Next BOD is June 8—this will be focused on reaching the goals from Strategic Planning Meeting. Anyone who has input for that agenda, should contact Sandy by the end of May so she can craft an appropriate agenda.

Lisa Beatty brought up the fact that we will need to convene a nominating committee for the next election.

AOA has contacted our President with some concern that the West Coast Alpaca Show is moving away from the AOA show umbrella. Our President responded that this was a good opportunity for Calpaca and SOJAA and AOA, and that it may actually strengthen the National Organization. She suggested that AOA might want to have a representative present to evaluate the success of the show. Perhaps next year we could file a waiver with AOA to not follow the AOA rules, but still have it be an AOA sanctioned show.

The BOD felt that AOA should look upon this as a “win-win” learning experience.

The AOA President has asked that we report back to AOA on the progress of the show. Karen Ball will draft a response to AOA and send it to the BOD for review before it is sent out to AOA.

Adjournment Sandy moved to adjourn at 8:42 pm. Unanimously approved.

Next BOD June 8 at 7pm.

Sandy Wallace
Secretary, Calpaca

Minutes approved 5/14/15 by LB, KK, SA, and SW.