

11.12.11 Calpaca meeting minutes

Meeting was called to order at 10:15 am. All Board members present except for Laurie, who is on crib watch. Dennis thanked Lisa and Kenny for having us at the KT-Lee Ranch. We had about 40 members present for this meeting. Many first time attendees came from the Tehachapi area.

Secretary's report – Minutes were approved and posted on the web site. There has been no new correspondence in the past months.

Treasurer's report – Jack advised Calpaca is still strong. We will be doing an audit in December to make ready for the changing of the check book in 2012. Jack's term is over at the end of the year and Dave will be taking over as treasurer. We made a \$500 donation to the student design competition.

Membership report - We had 5 new members since the August meeting. That brings the number of members to 171 – 135 farm members and 36 associate members.

Marketing update – Dave is looking for member to help sell the last of the Winagator tickets. Anyone who can take tickets and sell them before the end of the year would be greatly appreciated. We would like to hold the drawing at the Symposium since the proceeds will be going to the endowment and scholarship funds.

Old Business:

Dixon update – Joyce advised that Lambtown wants to go to a 2 day event. The number of participants from this year was way down (but we had a great time!). So, is it worth it to the membership to continue to participate in this event? We could do a booth in the fiber area, send fleeces to the fleece show or change the format an exhibition only type thing. The Board would really like membership feedback on this. The Board has also discussed more participation at the state fair in July as a replacement for Dixon. The show would be run by the CallLA group and Calpaca would pay to have a booth there as well. The building is air conditioned and this would be a 4 day event in July. Last year an average of 1000 people walked by and talked alpacas each day. Stall fees were very inexpensive and the ribbons, beautiful. We will be discussing this more at future meetings.

Gold Country – Kay advised that the show was a big success but the numbers way down so the show will just make it bills. The auction had 1 sale. Kay would like to know what needs to be changed on the auction if we where to hold it again. Ideas where adding colored number cards so that auction alpacas could be identified in the ring and the judge could make comments on the animals, where to place a bid announced more, a click rate and tracking of who was bidding giving to each participant. Kay will have Ed work on the computer end of this. Is this something that Calpaca should continue to offer at shows? Most said yes. Comments were made on why GCG did not have a herd sire service auction and the answer was that no one wanted to help with it. Dale advised she would find someone to do this for next year's show. A discussion on what Calpaca is responsible for in these auction was brought up. Contract for all alpacas entered in the service auction should be available prior to the auction for bidders to read.

Each ranch that offers up their male may have different requirements and limitations. This should be between the donor and the bidder.

California Classic plans are underway. Show dates will be April 21-22, 2012 with our judges, Kristin Bergman and Jill McCloud, both from Canada. We will have a female ring and a male ring for this year's show and new rules for 2012 will have the class list starting with greys! Joyce will keep us posted on this year's show.

Quarterly meeting announcements – here is the lineup for 2012 and we are looking for ranches for 2013. If you are interested in hosting a meeting for 2013, please give you name to any Board member for consideration and check out the rules for hosting a Calpaca meeting in the member's only section of the web site.

February – Deb Galway – Menagerie Hill - Vacaville. Speaker will be Gabrielle Menn and she will be talking fiber.

May – Date change to May 19 – Robin and Richard Vasquez – R&R Alpacas in Gilroy

August – Laurie and Scott Findlay – Alpaca of El Dorado – Somerset

November – Karen Kelly – Arapahoe Rose in Redding

New Business:

Election results – The new Board members Joyce Judy and Kay was re-elected for another term. Kay will remain secretary and Joyce will be the new marketing and membership liaison. Dave will become treasurer in 2012. Dennis thanked Janis for running and hopes she will consider running again next year and a very big thank you to Jack Jordan who has served for 4 years.

Facebook/Open Herd – Many members have requested that Calpaca have a Facebook or Open Herd page. Karen Ball has set up a Facebook page and all members are invited to join that site. Open Herd will be up soon. Dianna Jordan may be in charge of the Open Herd page.

Your Board is planning a special meeting for 2012 with a by-laws review and other business items. This will be Board members only.

Symposium update – Dale advised that things are moving along and the registration will be open soon. Calpaca members will receive a special early bird price of \$150 if signed up before December 15. Many new topics, 3 tracks and all the things that make this the 'can't miss' learning experience. Registration forms are on the Calpaca web site.

Some people are asking for more Calpaca signs. Jan and Dale originally ordered the signs and will look into making some more for purchase again. If they are made, they will be available for purchase at meetings or on the web site if we can get a credit card excepted. We will be looking into this possibility in the coming months.

Dianna Jordan is now an AOBA Board member and working on communications with AOBA Board and its members. Also, Joyce is on the National Show Strategic Planning Committee and is asking what we think about Nationals being held in November? Much discussion on the pro and cons of this time of year. Surveys will be coming out soon so please participate.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:45.

Lisa arrange for a great pasta feast and potluck followed by lessons on drawing blood and another way to do a plasma transfer if no vet is available.

Next meeting at Deb Galway, Menagerie Hill Alpacas in Vacaville.