

Calpaca 2.11.12 meeting minutes

Meeting was called to order at 10:40am. All board members present. Dennis welcomed everyone and thanked Deb and Kirk for having us at Menagerie Hill Ranch. Dennis asked for first time attendees to a Calpac meeting and we had 3 first time attendees. Dennis welcomed them all.

Secretary report - Kay requested motion to approve the minutes from our last meeting as posted in the Connection and on the web site. Dale 1st and Bonnie second. Motion carried.

Treasurer report - Dave advised that the changeover is almost complete. Taxes have been sent to the accountant prior to the transition. Dave is looking at new banks to lower our charges and closing accounts that we are no longer using. Calpaca is still strong financially and Dave is working at making everything a little easier to keep track of. He has made new forms for the accounting of the debit cards and reimbursement forms. Also, all paperwork is now to be kept with the treasurer.

Membership report - Joyce did not get an update from Lin Murray prior to this meeting but renewals are coming in. We are still looking for ways to add value to your Calpac membership so if you have any ideas, the board would love to hear them.

Old Business

Quarterly meeting announcements - looking 2013 meeting places - we have the May meeting scheduled for the Sroggins ranch, Colusa Riverside Alpacas but February, August and November are still open for 2013.

May - Date change to May 19 - Robin and Richard Vasquez - R & R Alpacas

August - Laurie Findlay - Alpaca of El Dorado

November - Karen Kelly - Arapahoe Rose

New Business

Member for the year Announcement - Dennis and the board were very pleased to announce that this year Citizen of the Year went to Dale Davis for all that she has contributed to Calpaca and the alpaca industry. Dale a driving force behind so many events and Calpaca is so very fortunate to have her as a member. Dennis also gave Dale the honor of drawing for the Winiagator. After shaking the box up several times, Dale drew the name of Dennis, Lily of the Valley Alpacas as the Winiagator winner! Congratulations Dennis!

Laurie Findlay will now be taking over the marketing projects and is looking for the next item or items to be raffled. If you have any ideas please contact Laurie.

AG Day - Bruce Nelson advised that AG Day is March 21 at the Capitol and this will be the 5th year that Calpaca has been a sponsor of this event. This year, alpaca owner and Assnibly member, Linda

Halderman McDowell will once again be there to get as many staff members aware of alpacas and what we do with their fleece. We will have both animals and product to show.

Calpaca is looking for a new Connection editor and RFP are being reviewed right now for the editor. The next issue will have a really quick turn around and we need articles and pictures for the editor so we can meet them all prior to our May meeting.

Dixon Cooper has been canceled and Calpaca will now have an information booth only.

Facebook/Open Herd - Calpaca is now on Facebook and we are working on Open Herd. Make sure you friend us and keep up with the last goings on around the Calpaca membership.

The board had a special meeting on January 28th at Origin's coffee shop to review the Calpaca by-laws and figure out where we wanted Calpaca to be in the next few years. The following is just a quick overview of things that were discussed at the meeting.

The first item was Calpaca's purpose and objectives. Our purpose is to promote the best management practices and encourage alpaca ownership and use of their fiber. Our objectives are being met by the Camellid Symposium, our quarterly meetings, our shows, AG day, brochures, email blasts, our website and Facebook page. These are just a few of the things that Calpaca does for its members.

We also reviewed our Bylaws. Discussed what each board member is responsible for and how to keep our organization strong and what to do to give our members more value to their membership. One thing we had not been doing but will start doing is keeping a sign in record at each of our meetings. We had 36 ranches at this meeting. We discussed all the articles - Officers, Membership, Meetings, Voting, Directors, Officers and Other Provisions. Some verbiage changes may be needed in the future and all voting members will be advised when a change needs to be made with a vote. We believe it is best done at election time.

We reviewed the 2012 calendar - we are a very busy organization.

In moving ahead, we will be trying to match what we do in the future with our purpose and objectives.

Our shows were reviewed on how to make them stronger. Our shows will now be one ring until entries improve. We will need more volunteers as well as more forward and sponsors. Another key to the success of a show is the herd sire service auction. California Classic has a very strong support group while Gold Country is still in need of some work.

When we got to Finance there were a lot of things for improvement and accountability. We will be creating a Budget template for the event managers. Also a Check Request form to be included with the receipt for reimbursement and a debit card template to keep track of their usage. We need to get our 1099 IRS forms to anyone that we paid more than \$600 in a year. And lastly, how to create more revenue for the organization.

The last topic covered that day was membership and how do we expand it? Ways to improve it could be to review the list on a yearly basis and contact non-renewing members and find out why they left. Start

membership committee and help it build membership in the association. Also review the ambassador/mentor program and strengthen the goals and direction we are looking for it to go in the future.

These are just a few of the things that were discussed at this all day meeting.

Gold Country - Kay advised that we lost a lot of money last year on Gold Country and wanted to know what the membership would like to do. We already have halter judges and Jane confirmed for this year and will have to let fleece judge Win Lebreque go because the fleece show cost us too much money for so few participants. We only had 70 fleece entries last year and that does not even cover the cost of the ribbons for the fleece show, so this is the first of the things that must go. Talk went on about it going to a 1 day show, but that would mean canceling the BBQ and no one wanted that. Ken Hibbits stepped up and volunteered his services in whatever capacity we needed to make the show a success. We will be taking Ken up on his offer and he will start the show with a seminar on "How to Show" for those who have never shown or need a refresher on show ring etiquette and how to show your alpaca to its best advantage. Also brought up, do we keep Gold Country an A0 BA show or make it an non-A0 BA show. The answer was keep it A0 BA. Everyone present voted yes to this. Kay also asked that everyone think about volunteering for this show because last year we could not find people for key parts of the show and this was part of the reason we lost money. Kathleen Friend stepped up right away for the Herd Sire auction and Dale volunteered to help her with this. Also Dave volunteered to be our announcer for this year's show. We are still looking for a silent auction person and some other key personnel. If you are interested, please contact Kay at krdriguez@lazyk-ranch.com or Eva Fisher at Eva@junipercreekalpcas.com.

Symposium update - Bonnie advised that this year's symposium was a huge success and they are already meeting to plan next year's event. Bonnie wanted to remind everyone that one of the perks of being a Calpacamember is a discount on fees for this fantastic event.

CA Classic! update - Joyce advised that registration is now open so don't miss out. When she gets to 350 entries the show is sold out! Spin off is closed and going to the judge. We had 70 entries this year for the spin off. Jill McClelland will be our judge this year and we will have just one ring going. Dale advised that there are still sponsorships available so contact her soon as they are selling fast. Mark your calendar for April 21-22 and we hope to see you there!

IAO Show - Kay advised that this year's IAO show is coming up March 24-25 at the Seaside Park in Ventura, CA. She is looking for volunteers to help make this show a success. Karen Ball and Jennifer Powers are also available to transport and show your alpacas if you are unable to attend. A small fee will apply but this is a one of a kind show with International judges and new rules so don't miss out.

Bruce Nelson also announced that this year's SIAP Herd Sire Show case is going to be March 31 at the Dixon Fairgrounds and entries are now open. Don't miss this great opportunity to show case your herd sire.