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**Board of Directors Meeting  
February 03, 2018 (Sat.)  
10:30 AM – 02:00 AM (EST)**

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**I. Meeting Open: (Ken)**

- Welcome & Call to Order (10:46)
- Discuss & Accept December 2017 Empire Minutes by Jay, seconded by Joe, all in favor 6, opposed 0.
- Review and approve agenda for February 2018:

**II. Treasures Report: (Holly)**

- Bank Balance 112,051. 17
- Outstanding debt: We are still owed fees from some vendors for tables/chairs. Invoice for Northeast Rentals hasn't cleared. We still owe NEOBA some money for the show.
- Upcoming debt:
  -
- Actions:
  - Holly to find out what state NEOBA is based out of for possible account management.
- Showtacular Financial Overview-Holly will review soon
- Holly write up Treasurer yearly process as starting point for new person.
  - How is the treasurers process coming?

**III. Standing Committees Reports:**

- General: (Ken)
  - There was no board mtg. for Jan 2018
  - Lynn's resignation.
    - Vote on acceptance of resignation letter, Chuck made a motion and Jay seconded.
    - Path forward discussion on opening.
    - Action: A list will be created by members of possible people to serve on committees will be emailed in next couple of weeks.
  - Committee Chairs
    - Show Committee-Joe
    - Education and Youth-Jay
    - Fiber-Kara, chair, Holly, co-chair
      - Action: Write a job description for serving on fiber committee
      - Kara will reach out to Leslie for fiber update.
    - Marketing/Social Media-Chuck
    - Sustainability-This group covers "how to make a profit on your farm", teaching to members.
      - Action: Chuck to define this committee and what it does
    - Election Committee



Action-Need to find a chair for this committee

- Membership ideas
- Action-Need to have a discussion about how to present our organization at both the Rhinebeck show and our show.
- 2018 Meeting Schedule

March Meeting- March the 4 at Ken Clark's farm.

Meetings-The first Monday of each Month.

April 2

May 7

June 4

July 2

August 6

Sept 10

October 1

November 5

December 3

All meetings will begin at 7:30

2018 Rhinebeck Festival & Empire Show update (Joe)

October 20-21. Joe working with chairman, will be a certified AOA Walking Fleece show with seminars

- 2018 Morrisville Festival, (Jay)

Jay will be going to festival with animals and possibly product.

Council of Agricultural Organizations-We have decided to join this organization and monitor their lobbying progress.

- Marketing: (Chuck)
  - Website Updates:
    - Need to update website as information is stale. Need to add seminars schedule, start of show and other items.
    - Other communication ideas?
  - Other Festivals, Farm days, etc.?
  - Chuck is going to look at everything and be contacting members for necessary changes
- Show: (Joe)
  - Review and Discussion:
  - Start 2018 Show discussion:
    - Show set and certified 11/08 – 11/11/2018
    - Show in New Bldg., no progress updates from Fairgrounds as yet.
  - Action-Ken will contact Gary from fairgrounds as to when building will open
    - Format Changes:
      - We are going to move towards a small breeder's show.



- Possible money for placings-Do away with the ribbons and payout for placement.
  - Seminars? Possible beginner seminar
  - Walking Fleece Super changes-can be a volunteer
  - Volunteers FFA kids again. Worked very good last year.
  - Dinner will remain the same.
  - Youth Program-
- Sustainability: (Chuck)
  - Update:
  - New Items:
    - What do we want to do for 2018?
    - Do we keep the committee?
  - Actions:
    -
- Fiber: (Kara/Holly)
  - Update:
  - Action: Job Description for the committee
  - Reach out to Leslie for the yarn, pricing and list of contributors to sock and yarn project. What is left on hand for raw fiber.
  - New Items:
    - Need inventory of all Empire Fiber Products
    - Currently remaining socks and inserts are at Joe C's house
    - What do we want to do for 2018?
  - Actions:
- Education & Youth: (Jay)
  - Update:
  - New Items:
    - 2018 Ideas:
    - Action: Jay to contact suppliers for new membership signs
      - Arturo offered to run a shearing preparation class.
        - Will towards later Spring
          - Update, upon further looking into this, Arturo was looking to have a shearer there also, so having it in March would not be a good idea. Late April? I could host or someone else?
          - Action-Put out email to see if anyone is interested in hosting seminars this year.
- Jay's Happenings
  - Research into places for a symposium
  - Del Lago
    - Tioga Downs
      - Anything further on this?
  - Quote for 2018 Empire Member stickers requested from Renee (other vendor quotes needed?)



- RFD-TV Show has been forwarded to FFA and 4H chair persons.

#### **IV. Special Committees Reports: (Justin)**

- Election Committee 2018:
  - Who will be chair?
  - Justin McElroy will be the chair.
  - Two positions will be open: Chuck and Jay

#### **V. Meeting Close (Ken) Meeting closed by Jay and Joe seconded.**