

Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Board Meeting November 17, 2002

Present: Richard Jonassen – Rain Dance Pond
Scott Young – Hilltop Alpacas
Tim Wilson—Alpacas of Pleasant Valley
Chris Gilman – Riveside Alpacas
Kelly Quinn Zanella—Spa Alpacas
Polly Michaelis—Finger Lakes Alpacas
David Friedman – Adirondack Alpacas

Meeting called to order at 1:35 p.m. at Adirondack Alpacas

Old Business:

Minutes of the 10/19/02 meeting were approved by motion and seconded.

New Business:

Scott Young reported that two educational grants have been applied for and thus far \$1000 has been granted.

Scott Young will remain as President of the Association through the second year of this three year term at that point a new President will be transitioned in.

Kelly Zanella was appointed Vice President.

Ethics Committee: Comments have been received on the “Code of Conduct” Those comments are being reviewed and the Committee will be working on a new version with additional input from various sources.

Nominating Committee: As one seat will be up for election next year the Nominating Committee will draft an article for the newsletter requesting people to think about running.

Marketing Committee: The Association will be purchasing space at the Farm Show (held at NYS Fairgrounds on February 20, 21 & 22. If we can bring animals and do retail sales we will take three spaces; if not, downsize as necessary. Polly will handle this event. Volunteers are needed! Chris Gilman will see about getting business card magnets made up as a marketing token. The committee has been charged with coming up with an Empire Association Alpaca brochure to use as a handout rather than the AOBA brochure. We’re looking into placing additional ads in other publications. David and Kelly will try to come up with ads. Polly will request the media kit from Grassroots (the NYS Farm Bureau publication). We’ll also look into producing a “day at the alpaca farm” video for distribution. Check into costs of public access for display of same.

Other Business: Rather than set an annual renewal for memberships and thus making prorated fees necessary, memberships will be rolling. That information is already in the database and renewal notifications will be sent out on anniversaries. Fees for Associate membership will be raised to \$50 – associate members are receiving all the major benefits.

Newsletter: Articles are to be drafted and sent to Scott by the end of next week for the newsletter. The newsletter will be mailed and also placed on the website.

Web Site: Tim reports that the hits just keep on coming! The website is being visited frequently

Education Committee: The Symposium! Invitations are set to be mailed on the Monday after Thanksgiving (11/27).

Treasurer's Report: There is currently \$38,000 in the account with approximately \$10,000 in bills still outstanding from the Extravaganza.

Show Committee: A donation will be made to the International Camelid Institute in the amount of \$1000 – monies made by the show. New show assignments were discussed. Thus far we have Mike Safley and Amanda Vandebosch as judges already lined up. Date is still in question, it was discussed that perhaps we could change for changes made in classes at check in (apparently done at other shows with great success in cutting down on the last minute work in reorganizing show classes). This idea was met with agreement

Next meeting scheduled for January 5th, 2002 at Spa Alpacas. Main point of the meeting will be to finalize late minute details for the Symposium and the Farm Show – both in February.

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting closed at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Polly B. Michaelis, Secretary