

# Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Board Meeting February 1, 2004

Present: Scott Young – Hilltop Alpacas  
Barry Finer – Gore Mountain Farm  
Chris Gilman – Riverside Alpacas  
Kelly Quinn Zanella—Spa Alpacas  
Polly Michaelis—Finger Lakes Alpacas  
Richard Jonassen – Alpacas of Rain Dance Pond (via telephone)

Meeting called to order at 11:15 a.m. at Gore Mountain Farm

Old Business:

Minutes of the 10/18/2003 meeting were approved by motion and seconded.

Symposium:

- registrations are still coming in
- an e-mail blast will go out 2/2 to the membership to remind them to sign up
- we still need fleeces for Amanda VandenBosch's demonstration
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Treasurer's Report: we currently have \$67,566 in the bank (deposits from membership and the Symposium just provided were not in this accounting)

- Scott will get Chris the paperwork so EAA will have a credit card (thus allowing charges not on Board cards or through Camp Hilltop)
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New York State Agricultural Society: Scott Young represented the Association at the NYSAS Annual Dinner. He met with various people. It was decided that EAA will join the Society (\$35/year). It will raise our visibility in the agricultural world.

National Cooperative Extension Conference is being held in Buffalo in 2005 (July). They're looking for sponsors. We're looking into possibly working with the Marketing Committee of AOBA and having a presence there.

Lobbyist – Discussion was had into possibly hiring a lobbyist to assist EAA in making inroads to the State of New York (i.e., Pride of New York). An initial meeting will be set up and decisions made from there.

Pride of New York – we need to encourage our members to join the Pride of New York (\$25 one time fee) – the more members that join, the greater the visibility and clout.

Panel purchase – we discussed purchasing panels to be used at the Extravaganza (going in on the purchase with at least two other Affiliates or show organizations) – with the cost of steel going up we had been requested to make a decision by close of business 2/1.

We're unable to make the commitment at this time. The idea was tabled until a future date.

Ethics Committee – It was brought to our attention that we need to revisit some of the wording in the Statement and then any changes will have to be brought to a vote before the membership.

Grants – Grant applications are pending for: AOBA Affiliate Committee (marketing/ mailing and education) and Pride of New York. Barry Finer will monitor Grow NY and Pride websites for additional grants we may wish to apply for.

Marketing Committee: Approval was given for the marketing committee to use the conference call line to meet. A dollar figure of \$10,000 was decided upon for the Committee to use to get our advertising up and running.

Officers: With the new year and new Board members; Officers were chosen by the Board. President – Scott Young; Vice President – Kelly Quinn Zanella; Treasurer – Chris Gilman; Secretary – Polly Michaelis

NY Farm Show – we're set with volunteers; still working on panels to use.

Empire Alpaca Extravaganza 2004:

- Judges (we're fairly certain but changes may occur)
  - Jude Anderson
  - Kristin Buhrmann
  - Harold Herbold (Performance)
  - Jill MacLeod (Fleece)

Coffee Vendor – will return; we will be providing FREE coffee to exhibitors (not to the public)

Name Tags – will be necessary (see coffee above), a sheet will be in the show packet requesting names of attendees

Vendors – the only vendor at the 2004 show will be Ridge Mist – all other vendor space will be given over to stalling and the product booth.

An award for Best in Show (Huacaya/Suri, Male/Female) has been applied for through the show committee.

Member discount – stalling will be \$175 for all stalls for EAA members (\$225 for first stall, \$175 for remainder for non-members)

Next meeting will be held at Finger Lakes Alpacas at a date to be determined.

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting closed at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Polly B. Michaelis, Secretary