

## **Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Board Meeting February 8, 2005 (teleconference)**

Present: Barry Finer – Gore Mountain Farm  
Chris Gilman – Riverside Alpacas  
Richard Jonassen – Alpacas of Rain Dance Pond  
Steve McCarthy – Spruce Ridge Farm  
Polly Michaelis—Finger Lakes Alpacas  
Scott Young – Hilltop Alpacas

Absent: Susan Wissick – Oh, My! Alpacas

Meeting called to order at 8:05 PM.

January 17, 2005 minutes were approved and seconded.

### 2005 Extravaganza:

Scott reported that the following speakers have been booked:

- Tim Lavan (handling and showing)
- Dr. Ottsen (vet session)
- Jerry Forestner (marketing)
- John & Liz Callen (farm store)

We will need to line up babysitters for Amanda VandenBosch during the show.

### 2006 Symposium:

Polly and Scott reported that the following speakers and judge have been booked:

- Ruth Elvestad (fleece judge and speaker)
- Kim Devos (fiber products)
- Julie Wassum (marketing)

We are waiting for Inca Tops' response.

Polly has received the contract for the Turning Stone Casio and Resort for our 2006 venue. Weekend of February 4 & 5, 2006 is reserved. Animals are permitted.

### National Association of County Agricultural Agents 2005 Annual Meeting and Professional Improvement Conference:

Paid the \$10,000 sponsorship; contacted several affiliates to share the expense. Proposed to AOBA to have Jerry Forestner, Steve Hull and possibly a fiber person address the Conference.

### Secretary's report:

Steve reported that we added 3 new members during the month. Discussed the process for sending out postcards for AOBA leads since the current process is very time consuming. Renting a postage meter may help reduce the time.

Other items:

Rich reported that he has worked out a deal on Avid microchips and readers for our membership. An email will be sent out to the membership outlining the details of the agreement. EAA will buy 2 more readers for the Extravaganza.

PAOBA discussed doing a joint event with EAA.

The chute for Cornell will be purchased through Chase Tavern Farm at their cost.

Cornell is open to doing a neonatal seminar with us.

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting closed at 9:06 PM.

The next Board meeting will be March 1 at 8PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Stephen McCarthy, Secretary