

Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Board Meeting September 20, 2005 (teleconference)

Present: Barry Finer - Gore Mountain Farm
Chris Gilman - Riverside Alpacas
Richard Jonassen - Alpacas of Rain Dance Pond (until 10:15PM)
Steve McCarthy - Spruce Ridge Farm
Polly Michaelis - Finger Lakes Alpacas
Susan Wissick - Oh, My! Alpacas
Scott Young - Hilltop Alpacas

Meeting called to order at 9:05 PM.

July 14, 2005 minutes were approved and seconded.

2005 Extravaganza:

- New England Alpaca Fiber Coop requested to be a vendor; Board reconfirmed that no clothing vendors will be allowed since we have the Product Booth.
- Vendors at the show will be: Farm Bureau, Ridge Mist, Sandy Creek Alpaca Network, and Barn Threads
- Exhibitors' gifts will be bags & coffee cups
- Michele Armour & her crew will be filming some farms on Thursday to show them packing up for the show.
- One sponsor wanted to use a heavier stock paper for their ad, but Board decided it would give that sponsor an unfair advantage that was not available to all sponsors.
- Rich Mauer of Show Solutions will not charge us this year if we will commit to next year, including ad sales. We will have 3 screens this year including one in the seminar building. No screen at performance ring.
- Coffee will be available on Friday.
- Responding to a member's concern about the lack of focus of EAA on suris, it was noted that the number of suris registered for the show is up 66% over last year.
- Finer to respond to an Alpacasite posting regarding available stalling at the show.
- The carved alpaca will weigh about 150 pounds.
- Found a babysitter for the judge's infant.
- VandenBosch will judge boys; Anderson girls.
- Locked in a 3 year price on ribbons
- Seeking a waiver from AOBA on Breed & Owned to split into "light" & "dark" classes since we have 41 males registered and 28 females.
- 600 10' panels and 425 8' panels
- Discussed assigned parking numbers for RV's & trailers.
- Board members will again help out at the show, including with set up and breakdown (Thursday & Sunday). Michaelis & Gilman to work Wednesday on barn set up. McCarthy to assist Melissa with registration desk on Friday.
- Jim Cobia & Scott Gove will be sharing the announcers' duties.

2006 Symposium:

- Sodums & Jonassen to coordinate with Luiz on Inca Tops presentation
- Eight workshop sessions scheduled for Friday
- Vendors teaching seminars can also set up vendor space
- Gilman to follow up with Winnie on doing seminars in addition to judging.
- Seminar participants will be allowed to attend the sessions of their choice rather than pre-assigned sessions.
- Room price is \$119. Seminar prices estimated to be \$150 for members; \$175 for non-members. 100 participants estimated to attend.
- Young to check with Cindy on spinoff.
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Annual Meeting:

- Will be held Saturday after the rings closes for the day.
- Discussions will include:
 - o Election results & Presidents Report (Michaelis)
 - o Membership Report (McCarthy)
 - o Marketing Report & Type Conference (Young)
 - o Education Report (Sodums)
 - o Treasurers Report including sheet on ad dollars (Gilman)
 - o Ethics Committee Update (Jonassen)
 - o Website (Tompkins)

Breed Standards/Type Conference:

- Suri Network has established breed standards and want to present at this conference but they will only be allowed to discuss their process, not the actual standards they approved.

Secretary's Report: July 15 – September 20:

- Emailed 28 renewal notices
- Processed 25 membership renewals & 17 new member applications
- Sent follow-up correspondence or phoned 10 members who have not renewed
- Deactivated 3 members who did not renew
- Current number of members: 208

Miscellaneous:

Motion to adjourn, seconded. Meeting closed at 10:25PM.

The next Board meeting will be determined by email notification.

Respectfully submitted:

Stephen McCarthy, Secretary