

Draft **Minutes Empire Alpaca Association Board Meeting 11 July 2007**

Present:

John Askew	Sunset Ridge Alpacas
Chris Gilman	Riverside Alpacas
Richard Jonassen	Alpacas of Rain Dance Pond
Steve McCarthy	Spruce Ridge Farm
Ann Merriwether	Nyala Farm Alpacas
Susan Wissick	Oh, My! Alpacas
Sue Zelazny	Andes Dandies, LLC

Meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM

Chris Motioned that the 7 June 2007 Meeting Minutes be approved. Richard seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Symposium

- Contract with the Saratoga has been signed and returned.
- Steve has the freezer and will pick up three cria
- Schedule is posted on the web site
- People are already booking rooms

2007 Extravaganza

- Sara Lamanna of Claddagh Farm has volunteered to be Coordinator for show sponsors and act as Concierge for new breeders.
- A previous sponsor indicated to Steve that other shows give more benefits to their sponsors including early check-in, color check at stalls and refreshments at their stalls. Board discussed including these benefits as well as a special gift in the gift bag, free raffle tickets and tickets to the dinner. No decision was made. Board is to continue to generate ideas to enhance Sponsor benefits.
- Paulie Drexler will handle publicity again this year.
- Need a new caterer for the dinner. Board discussed moving the dinner to a different venue but no decision was made.
- Registration will start at 12:01 on 15 August using the AOBA on-line system. Board discussed moving the start time to later in the morning but decided to leave it at midnight.

Marketing

- 5K copies of the Brochure have been ordered. Each member will get a copy with the September newsletter.
- Brochure will replace the old postcard as the mailer to the AOBA Lead list. It will also be available for Tacha Trimm to use in marketing.
- Steve suggested we list Empire member who are participating in the National Alpaca Day on the web site at no charge. Board agreed and Steve will send out an email to membership as well as talk with Don to make

the list.

- NY State won't get to the ILNY Llama & Alpaca Days resolution until August.

Financials

- Chris indicated she had over \$6K in outstanding bills and a \$0 balance in the checking account.
- John indicated he would send \$3K in membership renewal checks this week.
- Steve will transfer \$15K from the money market account to the checking account
- Chris will send \$2K to Colorado State University as part of Dr. LaRue's compensation.

Bylaws

- There are a number of typographical errors, misspellings and gramatical errors which Steve will correct.
- Bylaws require the Inspector of Elections to be an Empire member. We have been using the CPA firm which is not a member. Either the Bylaws need to be amended, the CPA needs to be a member or the Board needs to find a member to act as Inspector of Elections. Board will look for a member to perform this function.
- Bylaws require a Certified Financial Statement each year but there is no record of it ever being done. Steve got an estimate of \$8K-\$10K per year to have this done. Board agreed to have a Certified Financial Statement done using the 2006 year data and possibly consider a Bylaw change after this is complete.
- Bylaws require Board meeetings to be conducted using Robert's Rules of Order. Board agreed to propose a Bylaws change to allow Robert's Rules to be used at the discretion of the Board.
- Bylaws require an Annual Meeting to be held on 31 September. Board agreed to propose a Bylaw change to have the Board set a date for the Annual meeting.
- Bylaws require a 2/3 majority of eligible voting members to approve a Bylaw change. Board agreed to propose a Bylaws change to require 2/3 majority of actual voting members to approve a Bylaw change.
- Sue made a motion to spend \$500 for a lawyer to draft language for the proposed Bylaw changes. Richard seconded. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

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Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM

Next meeting is scheduled for 9 August 7:00 PM