

Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Meeting May 24, 2010

Sue Caston	Patchwork Meadow
Cindy Cuykendall	Song Meadows Alpacas
Steve McCarthy	Spruce Ridge Farm
Dick McCoy	Foxrun Farms Alpacas
Ann Merriwether	Nyala Farm Alpacas
Barb Rossi	Bel Canto Farm
Sue Zelazny	Andes Dandies, LLC

- The meeting was called to order at 7:03
- Old Business:
- 2011 Symposium - Updates (Steve)
- We are in really good shape.
 - We are waiting for a proposal from the Renaissance Hotel in Syracuse
 - So far Steve has lines up these judges: Cameron Holt, Wade Geese Wini Labrecque for spin off, Tom Knisely for fiber arts from the Mannings Fiber Arts School
 - He has lined up these speakers so far: Frank Rossi and Walter Bravo
- 2010 Extravaganza
 - Scott's Contract Cindy is talking to Scott about this
 - We discussed ways to cut costs
 - Bedding Sod is one of our big expenses no one likes straw but we are thinking about cardboard, as it would be half the cost. We are investigating this with Scott.
 - The photographer is big expense, should we try and reduce costs here? We discussed options.
 - We discussed some ways to make the show even more fun and exciting (but still less expensive).
 - Fiber product booth: We discussed putting it over in the vendor village, we also discussed a coupon system to encourage the general public to shop in the product booth with Empire possibly not taking its small cut.
- Fiber Committee Update (Ann & Cindy)
 - Project Update: We are working on the "Pride of NY" yarn idea.
 - Funding Options- NY! Farms at not for profit group that has some grant money Steve sent the grant proposal to Cindy and the fiber committee is working on it
 - Collection we are working on collection sites around the state for fiber.
- Marketing Committee (Barb)
 - Web Page: We are still looking for web design person but have not gotten a volunteer. We discussed hiring someone to do it or still trying to find a volunteer. We discussed how to get things updated more quickly.
 - Newsletter Articles we discussed some of the different articles that will go in the deadline is June 1st.
- Affiliate Benefits (Cindy) Cindy reviewed other affiliate benefits and we discussed some options.
- Membership Renewal (Cindy) reported this is going very slowly.
- Ethics Committee We discussed our ethics committee procedures.

- Approve Minutes from 4/26/ Sue Z motioned to approve Steve seconded and the motion passed unanimously
- Our next meeting will be June 26th
- Cindy motioned for the meeting to be adjourned and Sue C seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15