

## Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Meeting January 25, 2012

Sue Caston	Patchwork Meadow
Cindy Cuykendall	Song Meadows Alpacas
Holly Jacobs	Alpacas of the Glen
Sarah Lamanna	Claddagh Farms Alpacas
Ann Merriwether	Nyala Farm Alpacas
Leslie Oliver	Limestone Creek Alpacas
Sue Zelazny	Andes Dandies, LLC

Meeting was called to order at 7:02

### **Agenda**

- Approve Minutes from 12/12/11: Cindy motioned to approve the minutes from 12/12/11 and Sue C seconded, the motion passed unanimously.
- Treasurer's Report: (Holly) Holly is making the transition to treasurer with help from Sue Z.
- Wells Fargo Account: We discussed an existing bank account that we have with Wells Fargo. This is an insured checking account but not interest earning we need to update the contact information and change the nature of the account. We discussed updated the account info so then we can change this to an interest earning savings account and link it to our existing checking account.
- **Old Business**
- Herdsire Auction: We discussed the herdsire silent auction. The question was are they all paid up and Sue confirmed that they are. We discussed putting the names of donors/winners for web site? Everyone thought that was a good idea and Ann will send the names to Cindy.
- Yarn Project: Cindy applied for an agricultural state grant on Empire's behalf to support the yarn project. Thanks for going to all that work Cindy!! We will hear in March whether we got it or not. It would fund the yarn project and some fees surrounding selling the yarn at NY events and even some education.
- Trifecta:
  - Sponsors: Set goal for fundraising we are still working on the structure of the event which makes it challenging to set fundraising goals and not knowing how much money might be available makes it challenging to plan the structure. Lesley (Holly) is going to liaison with the sponsorship committee and get the ball rolling there.
  - Corporate/Business Sponsors Cindy is working on a sponsorship from TSC. We discussed some other sponsor options possibly having lots of small business sponsors (although there was some concern that this might be really a lot of work).
  - Judges Amanda VandenBosch and Helen Humphries
  - Show logistics we talked about the logistics of having a one-day show for every

one Saturday and a small breeders show on Sunday. The logistics of planning this became quite complicated

-Education component issues discussed:

- When to have an education component
- Use the judges for an education component or not (logistics with showing in front of them)
- Bring in a big name speaker as a draw
- Have the big name speaker be free to everyone
- Charge for the big name speaker
- Have the big name speaker do a vet seminar all day Saturday (charge the vets) and then a talk for the breeders Saturday night
- Have someone sponsor the big name speaker
- We discussed the logistics of having a judge evaluation

-Second building: We talked about having the fiber arts, fleece show and education in the second building

Given the complexity of the planning for the Trifecta we decided to have a face to face in February (hopefully on Feb 26<sup>th</sup> in Syracuse)

- Male of the Month This was a plan to have a herd sire raffle to replace the fixed price raffle we have traditionally held at the symposium. Sue C reported on various raffle sites and all had logistical and legal kinds of issue. We discussed using the My Event Auction site. Cindy made a motion to go with an auction site rather than a raffle site. Sue Z seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. We will start this auction in March
- Other: We discussed some issues with Focus and the Newsletter.
- Sue C motions to adjourn and Sue Z. seconded it was approved unanimously
- We adjourned at 9:17