

EMPIRE ALPACA ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2013

The Empire Alpaca Association Board of Directors May 7, 2013 monthly meeting, via conference call, was called to order by Cindy Cuykendall, EAA President at 7:09 pm.

Attendees:

Sarah Lamanna, Kathy Bryan, Jen Power, Cindy Cuykendall, and Holly Jacobs. Leslie Oliver and Sue Caston were absent.

Motions:

1 of 3: Accept the March 19, 2013 minutes as amended made by Cindy Cuykendall, second by Jen Power, motion carried.

2 of 3: Accept the April 16, 2013 minutes made by Cindy Cuykendall, second by Kathy Bryan, motion carried.

3 of 3: To adjourn made by Cindy Cuykendall, second by Kathy Bryan, motion carried.

General business:

- Minutes from March 19, 2013 were discussed; Cindy Cuykendall amended the reported minutes to reflect the following change: The RFPs related to the fiber item were to be sent out and not had been sent out as reported.
- Treasury report discussed per the email submittal to the Board by Holly Jacobs on May 7, 2013, no motion necessary
 - The Board agreed to let the \$5 over payment made by Six Day Farm stand as they renewed the 2013 dues prior to the Open Herd Affiliate program activation
 - The bank statement reflects a double payment made to Plug and Pay which has been rectified
 - The NYS Fairgrounds bill for the 2012 Trifecta has been paid
- Marketing Committee (Sarah Lamanna and Jen Power)
 - Sarah Lamanna has been continuing to update the EAA Facebook page regularly and has been identifying EAA member farms and “liking” them to increase the EAA exposure
 - As soon as the Board confirms specific details related to the Summer Symposium Sarah Lamanna will post that on the EAA Facebook page
- Fiber Committee (Cindy Cuykendall)
 - Cindy Cuykendall has sent the RFP to the following mills:
 - Battenkill
 - Autumn Mist
 - A+
 - Dream Weaver
 - Salt City

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- And one other mill (unknown name)
- Cindy Cuykendall announced the NY Farms Viability Institute is accepting requests for proposals (RFP) for fiber grants if anyone is interested in submitting a new one
- Education Committee (Kathy Bryan and Leslie Oliver)
 - Kathy Bryan will contact Leslie Oliver to discuss lineup of presenters for the Summer Symposium
 - Jen Power spoke with Katherine Dart, DVM from Groton City Animal Hospital and confirmed she is available and interested in presenting on emergency neonatal cria care at the Summer Symposium
 - Cindy Cuykendall contacted Dale Ottosen, DVM at Cayuga Veterinary Clinic and learned he was unavailable the weekend of the Symposium
 - Wini Labrecque is also unavailable that weekend for a fiber workshop
 - Kathy Bryan left a message for Tim Slatter, DVM regarding FAMACHA, but has not had a response yet
 - Kathy Bryan spoke with Lynn Eden of Little Creek Alpacas and confirmed Lynn is interested in presenting at the Summer Symposium; topic likely about the Back 40 project or fiber in general
 - Kathy Bryan will oversee following tasks on the Summer Symposium:
 - Contact Lisa Williamson, DVM and Tim Slatter, DVM to schedule one of them as the FAMACHA presenter at the summer symposium
 - Contact Dr. Van Suan at the University of Pennsylvania regarding a presentation on homeopathic feed, minerals and feeding ; for new breeders
 - Contact Andy Merriwether, Ph.D. regarding a genetics presentation
 - Contact Polly Michaelis regarding a presentation on showing
 - Holly Jacobs recommended setting another date separate from the Summer Symposium to schedule Wini Labrecque for the one day fiber sorting workshop
 - Kathy Bryan will contact Wini Labrecque to obtain a few dates that Wini is available to present a one day fiber workshop, to comply with the current grant requirements
 - Kathy Bryan will contact Lynn Eden to see if she is interested in hosting Wini's workshop
 - A back-up hosting location may be Heather Rayne Alpacas
- Show Committee: Skipped, neither of the co-chairs available to discuss
- Trifecta update
 - Judges: Arturo and Kevin O'Leary have been scheduled as halter judges and Ursula Monroe and Laurel will be fleece judges
 - Sponsors - All Board members need to solicit for show sponsors
 - Eblasts/Constant Contact:
 - Jen Power will send eblasts every 3 weeks until the end of June then every 2 weeks announcing new information related to the Trifecta
 - Reminder that Herd Sire Sweepstakes are back
 - Highlight judges

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- Eblast to all EAA contacts seeking Trifecta Show sponsors, fleece camera sponsor
- Cindy Cuykendal will contact Scott Young to see about a scrolling banner on the blank fleece TV screen when not showing fleece close-ups
- Fleece show superintendent will be Cindy Vars; Cindy Cuykendall and Kathy Bryan will work closely with her to maintain proper time lines and follow-through
- Lynn Eden from Little Creek Alpacas was interested in sponsoring the Trifecta but may not be able to participate at the Trifecta due to her farm manager being a show judge
- Membership Committee
 - Openherd Affiliate program is currently up and running
 - Jen Power is following up with all current EAA member farms not listed on Open Herd to remind them to create the Open Herd page
 - Cindy Cuykendall will send out membership renewal reminders for the next 3 weeks
 - Cindy Cuykendall will contact Don Tompkins to include Jen Power on the automatic member renewal confirmation notices so she can maintain the current list
- Old Business
 - Newsletter
 - Nothing new; Marketing Committee to address
 - Pay Pal: Holly Jacobs contacted them and has many questions she cannot answer and will refer the contact to Don Tompkins as the questions involve the website
 - Holly Jacobs confirmed the current Plug and Pay is not user friendly
- New Business
 - EAA brochure – Board overwhelmingly agreed on the brochure being a tremendous asset; The Marketing Committee will pursue this project
 - The brochure printers solicit for advertisers and do all leg work on the brochure
 - The Board expressed a great appreciation to Todd Jacobs for identifying this tool and sending it to the Board
 - 2013 Herdsire Sweepstakes
 - Leslie Oliver is putting together a list of available herdsires and will send to Cindy Cuykendall for review and further dissemination
 - Website posted minutes – The secretary will submit all minutes to the Don Tompkins, EAA webmaster, who will post them on the EAA website
 - Nomination Committee
 - Randy Strong from K-Ran Alpacas has graciously volunteered to chair the nominations committee
 - Randy Strong has obtained 4 other EAA member farms to be on the nominations committee (list is unknown at this time, but will be sent to Board upon receipt)

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- The Board made the following suggestions to be given to the committee chairman:
 - Jeanne Macleod-Lang from Thistle Creek Alpaca Farm
 - George Schena from Alpacas of Niagara
 - Jeanne Angell from Lone Spruce Alpacas
 - Bob Thompson from Hemlock Alpacas
 - Calvin Coolidge from Jay Mountains Alpacas
 - Contact Susan Muther at Breed Works for Suri breeder suggestions (considering the fact that she is preparing to move from NY and not likely willing to participate on the committee)

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm

Next conference call meeting is Tuesday June 4, 2013 at 7:00 pm

Minutes taken and submitted by Jen Power