

Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association – Board Meeting Minutes

January 26, 2021

Meeting via Zoom - called to order at 7:33PM

Attendees: Carole Rost, Barb Sodums, Jeff Jorritsma, Chris Reachard, Mary Reed, Bill Oraschin, Arlene Fusko

Approval of Minutes: 1/12/20 Minutes – **Motion to approve by Bill, Second by Arlene, Unanimous – Motion passed.**

New MAPACA Memberships and Renewals – Chris is now getting the PayPal reports and is acknowledging the members as they join/renew.

OSU Conference Update:

Mary reported that OSU will be sending Conference invitations out to members next Monday so she needs the member email list. Chris will send that to her.

Jubilee discussion:

Superintendent Contracts – Discussed the contracts for Cheri Seiler (Fleece, Cottage Fleece, Spin-Off, Skeins, Fiber Arts), and Angie Grove (Walking Fleece). Both look fine.

Sue Ive's Contract is carried over from the 2020 canceled show.

Sue's application to AOA for certification includes only Halter and Performance shows. Application for certification of Walking Fleece, Fleece, & Fiber shows needs to be completed and submitted to AOA by Cheri and/or Angie.

Announcer Contract – Reviewed and approved Kathy Brown's announcer compensation proposal. **Motion to approve the Announcer's Contract by Carole, Second by Arlene, unanimous. Motion passed.**

Bill suggested an interactive fleece table for exhibitors where they could try their hand at scoring a few fleeces. Chris thought we could use a modified score sheet and some sort of fleece sample display.

Show Management - Carole reported that Chris Armstrong has agreed to cover volunteers, website, etc. Carole will be getting their show management proposal soon and will forward that to the board members.

Venue, Lodging, Food, Auction, etc. Discussion:

Venue does not have AC, but is “climate controlled” via large air turbines which they assured Carole will keep the building cool. Agreed we should mention this on the website.

Carole ran down the hotel blocks she has booked or is in process of booking:

- Days Inn is the only hotel close to the venue with availability. Carole is negotiating the block price for 20 rooms.
- Holiday Inn Express and Hilton Garden Inn in Owings Mills 15 miles from venue are both booked:
 - o Holiday Inn Express – 10 King rooms @\$80, 10 double Queen rooms @\$85
 - o Hilton Garden Inn – block of 20 rooms for Exhibitors, block of 10 rooms for judges & staff, all @ \$97

It was agreed that Judges and staff and Board Members will stay in the 10 room block booked at Hilton Garden Inn.

Superintendants & other paid show staff will stay at Days Inn to be close to venue.

Venue has a building with a kitchen to be used for a Catered Dinner and Auction on Saturday evening. 50 chairs and some 8’ tables will be available at no charge, and 10 banquet tables can be rented for \$180.

Dinner/Auction Ticket prices were discussed, and it was agreed that we should keep them at the same price of \$30, and \$25 caterer cost, with the difference offsetting the other expenses. Two protein options, one with meat and one meatless will be offered.

Venue will do complete clean-up of all bedding, etc. for \$1500.

Straw bedding is allowed if exhibitors want to use it.

Bedding Pellets will be provided for stalls.

Trailer can be dropped off and parked at the venue ahead of time.

Carpet – What to do with it?? Bill expressed concern about the storage cost. It isn't needed for the floors at this venue. Discussed keeping enough of the grey carpet for the show rings. Empire may be interested in the rest.

Vendor Coordinator – Carole and/or Bill – TBD

Sponsor Coordinator – Carole and/or Barb – TBD

Discussed allowing the public into the venue. All members agreed that it would be best if we could, especially for the vendors. Arlene suggested limiting the number of people allowed in. Barb suggested we tell exhibitors/vendors that we are hopeful and planning on public, but will adjust decision as needed due to Covid. Refund of fees will be offered to Vendors if we are unable to have public attend. Exhibitors need to have identifiers for admittance into building. Name badges and/or wrist bands will be provided.

Carole reported that AOA will be sending out the show Eblast next week, to go to all AOA members “east of the Mississippi”.

Discussed options for refreshments. No liqueur license or bar catering. Ideas for “give away” drinks included having a Sponsor host a Margherita machine, and getting local breweries/wineries to come and set up “tastings” before the auction.

Auction discussion – Jeff will work on it and Randy Strong has offered to help out. Carole noted that we all need to chip in as well. It was decided that we should ask Randy if he would be the auctioneer as well.

Coffee Sponsorship – Carole noted that the sponsor would need to get the coffee machines and supplies. Jeff suggested we need to offer the sponsorship to Rosehaven first since they've taken it in the past.

Bill suggested the 4-H kids might be able to contribute, and Chris suggested having them be responsible for the water stations staying supplied. TBD

Holdover Sponsors from last year's cancelled show were discussed. These include sponsorships purchased at other shows by a few farms and some who paid and didn't take refunds. Carole has the list.

Chris is waiting to hear back from Jay Mariarcher about shearing. Carole noted that there is a great space for shearing available at the venue.

Meet & Greet – Agreed to have something delivered, pizza, sandwiches, ??.

All agreed that Food Trucks are the best option for exhibitor & staff lunches throughout the weekend.

Chris reminded us that we need to give out the Lifetime Achievement Award to the 2020 Recipient chosen for last year's cancelled show, as well as identify a 2021 recipient for this year.

Show Veterinarian – Our usual show vet, Dr. Anthony Stachowski, is not licensed in MD. Mary suggested a Dr. Sarah Link who is close-by and they know as a good camelid vet. She and Anthony are reaching out to her. She could work with Anthony for CVI/Health Check at check-in, and Anthony could be our Emergency on-call vet for the remainder of the show. Chris also suggested Dr. Eric Watkins, and Carole suggested the vet used locally by the Armstrong's. Mary will follow up with Dr. Link and then the others if necessary.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 9th, at 7:00 PM, via Zoom.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:51 pm by Bill, second by Jeff, Unanimous – Motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted by: Barb Sodums, Secretary