

Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association – Board Meeting Minutes

December 14, 2022

Meeting via Zoom - called to order at 7:00 PM

Attendees: Carole Rost, Barb Sodums, Mary Reed, Nicole Phillips, Arlene Fusko, Brad Kessler

Approval of Minutes: 11/15/22 Minutes – **Motion to approve by Mary, Second by Arlene, Unanimous – Motion Carried**

Treasurer's Report – Nicole reviewed the report details (emailed).

Nicole was able to file the VA Annual Report herself, saving us the fee paid in the past.

Carole reported that she has received an IRS notice of a late filing penalty owed for 21-22. She sent that to Laurie Oraschin who thought she could take care of it.

Motion to approve by Barb, second by Brad, Unanimous – Motion Carried

Show 2023 Update:

Judges are all set other than waiting to hear if Jacob Hart is certified.

Pen Panels – Carole reported:

Justin McElroy has been able to negotiate reduced prices from Red Barn for panel rental. Red Barn emailed Carole new pricing for our show of \$5000 for 400 panels delivered, and an additional set-up/break-down cost of \$1000, which is much less and seems reasonable. Their pricing is specific to each show based on location, etc.

There probably won't be enough panels for the rings, but we can use venue-provided railings or rent them if necessary.

Motion to approve renting panels for the show from Red Barn by Arlene, second by Barb, Unanimous – Motion carried.

Carole shared an FYI - PAOBA is no longer taking our old weekend of April 22nd at Harrisburg, but instead is going in with Scott Young's combo show with Northeast/North American & possibly an Empire spring show the weekend before us, which is the first weekend in April. It will be a 3 day, 3 show weekend. Harrisburg is available but Scott is trying to find a less expensive venue.

It was agreed that shearing shouldn't be needed by most farms at our show since it is earlier in April. Possibly we could have a shearer come just for a day.

At the Westminster venue we can use the on-site building up the hill for our dinner/auction.

We are planning to have Randy auctioneer, and Tim McCarty is willing to come for that evening (Sat.) if we will cover a hotel room for him (he is returning the day before from a vacation and won't be attending the show). Everyone agreed that's worthwhile.

Nicole and Carole arranged for the membership Eblast, and Board members received the sample Eblast yesterday from AOA to review. The actual Eblast will be sent out by AOA to their business and primary membership in our 8 state footprint and New Hampshire and Vermont tomorrow. Primary members are the new/fiber members who might be interested in joining for our educational offerings, etc. Planning to send another Eblast in January.

Youth area – Carole shared her concern that we might not have room in the main building for the youth rings and suggested an attached tent as an option if necessary. However, because the dinner won't be in the main building as it was the last time, there should be room. Carole will get copies of the building lay-out from Jess Armstrong so we can look at it during our next meeting.

2024 Show Site: Carole asked that we consider whether we want to return to Harrisburg, especially if Scott has his show there next year as well. We could look at VA and MD instead.

Website - Nicole asked that we decide whether we want to change back to the old "look" or stay with what it is now. She will be looking into other ways to update the website so it is more appealing to newer, younger members.

Carole reported that Chris R. has removed himself as administrator from our FB group. Barb will be changing the group to private.

Fall Seminar – Need to decide if we want to have it at Tim McCarty's farm where there is plenty of space for hands on workshops as well as seminars in a second building. All agreed that having a farm environment is preferable. Tim has offered to do a pig roast also.

Barb suggested that we need to have a contract with him and compensate him in order to make it a business transaction. Everyone agreed with this.

Mary shared that Anthony is available to do a hands-on vet seminar for \$250 an hour.

Carole asked that we plan to nail down what seminars we want to have at the next meeting.

Ideas include:

-Jason Gill of Cotton Creek possibly for a color genetics seminar, since Lynn may not want to do it

- A neonatal clinic with Cheryl DeWitt

Next zoom meeting is scheduled for January 17th at 7:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn at 8:06 by Arlene, second by Nicole, unanimous – motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by: Barb Sodums, Secretary