

Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association – Board Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2023

Meeting via Zoom - called to order at 7:04 PM

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

Approval of Minutes: Barb sent the minutes out for member review on 3/17/23.

Motion to approve 2/28/23 meeting Minutes by Arlene, Second by Nicole, Unanimous.

Motion Carried.

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

Atlantic Union Bank: Current Balance = \$72,904.68

PayPal: Current Balance = \$12,253.80 - \$6000 transferred from PayPal to Bank Acct.

MAPACA Total Current Balance = \$85,158.48

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

Show 2023 Update:

Carole reported on the status of the show as of now. We are smaller than last year, but we should still be fine with expected late entries.

Nicole reported we are on target with last year for Walking Fleece entries, but behind on Halter entries.

Carole reported that we are short on vendors: NEAFP, Fashion Forum, Peruvian Link, Light Livestock and Lanart are coming. Carole will be contacting Latin Collection and Krausdale to see if they might be interested.

Membership is up to 46 and they will be listed in the Show Book.

Red Barn is locked in with a deposit for the stall panels. Extras can be used for the youth ring. Discussed using stanchions provided by the venue with rope for the halter rings. Hanging the sponsors' banners in the rings is the only concern. Barb suggested doing 1 or 2 sides with panels to accommodate the banners, and the rest with rope.

Jess and Christine Armstrong are hoping to be able to come to help with set-up.

Arlene is picking up the ribbons, and the banners are being delivered to Scott.

Carole explained that redesigned banners are being ordered from a new company, completely customized and for less money.

Carole will be doing the ordering for the Meet & Greet early during show week.

Carole is bringing terra cotta plant pots with alpacas on them that we can use for the wine bottles on the tables at dinner.

Barb reported on the auction items and catalog. Nicole and Carole will be sending additional items / photos of items that can be added to the catalog, including vendor donations.

Nicole is working on putting together a basket using items she has that weren't included in the AOA basket.

Barb suggested we put out an Eblast asking people for Silent Auction donations.

Carole will send us our confirmation numbers for the hotel reservation.

Carole has ordered a standing plaque for the recipient of the Alan C. Clarke Award. Carole has photos from last year for the Show Book, including a nice photo of the board. Start time for the show days was discussed, and we can start a little later due to lower numbers. Exhibitor meeting and MAPACA Annual Meeting will be held Friday evening.

Fall Seminar Weekend:

The Flyer that Nicole designed will be put on the back cover of the Show Book, as well as handed out at the Buckeye and Jamboree shows and put in our show bags.

A possible additional seminar with a FeltLoom machine with Nikki Addicott might be an option, but that will be discussed more after the show.

2024 Jubilee:

Carole will talk to Kathy at Triple Diamond about the Michigan show date. One possible date would be the later April 20th date at Harrisburg.

Further discussion and a decision will be made at our first meeting after the show.

Additional Discussion:

Nicole addressed future plans for MAPACA. She is focused on thinking about what MAPACA is, has been and should be going forward, with education being a major component, as well as including smaller and new farms in our plans. She's spoken with Cheryl DeWitt about a full day Neonatal Seminar (\$2900 + travel), and to Margie at AOA about Fleece Shows. Margie told her there are few between February and July, and that July & August are good times. Carole corrected Margie's information because both Empire and PAOBA's fleece shows are held then. Nicole also spoke with her about an adjusted point value for Regional Affiliates like ours, which would allow us to capitalize on the benefits of the point system and differentiate us from state affiliate shows. AOA could benefit by possibly collecting a higher fee from us. Margie told her she would put it on the AOA Board agenda for discussion.

Arlene requested payment for her work on the show items.

Brad made a motion to immediately pay Arlene for customizing the T-shirts, coozies and show bags, Barb seconded, Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion from Brad to adjourn at 8:11 pm, second by Arlene, Unanimous. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted by: Barb Sodums, Secretary