

***Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association – Board Meeting Minutes***

***March 22, 2022***

**Meeting via Zoom – Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM**

**Attendees:** Carole Rost, Barb Sodums, Nicole Phillips, Arlene Fusko, Bill Oraschin, Jim Nogier

**Approval of Minutes:** 3/1/22 Meeting Minutes – **Motion to approve by Arlene, Second by Bill, Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**Treasurer’s Report – Nicole reviewed details of the report:**

**Atlantic Union Balance – \$ 52,995.50**

**PayPal Balance – \$42,164.73**

**MAPACA Total Balance – \$95,160.23**

**Motion to approve by Barb, Second by Arlene, Unanimous – Motion Carried**

**Jubilee Business:**

Carole reported that registrations are still coming in, and that a few people have registered since she spoke with them at Nationals.

Barb reported that a few people told her they weren’t coming because it’s a 3-day show. She told them that a 2-day option was available, but they didn’t realize that. Changing to a 2-day show was discussed, and Carole pointed out that due to the late date we need to provide shearing, but it can’t be done easily with a 2-day show (last year shearing had people waiting 6-8 hours on Sunday for this reason!). Next year our date is earlier so we won’t need shearing. Carole will do an Eblast and Barb will post on FB about the 2-day option for the show.

Auction report – Barb: Carole got a number of items from Brenda Breedlove, which we need to get pictures for. Carole asked Barb to send a listing for the Showbook this week. Additional items since last report are Education with a Destination for 22 or 23, Openherd Business plan, & a Large alpaca from Fashion Forum.

Show Summary – Carole pointed out that the numbers are disappointing right now, but suggested that we should almost double our numbers the week before the show so we should stay with the 3-day format, especially because of shearing issues. Bill agreed we don’t have any other options.

Stalls number is currently at 134, vendor spaces is at 18 but that will be increasing because Carole has more to coming in. Bill checked that vendor spaces are 10 x 10 and animal stalls are 9 x 9.

Carole is still trying to reach the company that rents the pipe and drape. Estimates she received for tables, etc. were extremely high compared to 2019, so she needs to double check on that. We can also rent tables for less through the venue, but we will need the tablecloths, which need to be located. Bill will check in the trailer for them and Carole will call Chris R. to see if he knows where they are.

Carole reported that EMTs are \$25/hour but we only need them for show days. Overnight security is \$24/ hour for one guard, but it is not required by the venue and Carole explained that other shows don't have it. Venue security is monitoring until 10:00 pm when they lock the doors and no one can get in. Bill brought up animal escapes as a possibility, and a guard would have to call someone. Nicole felt that we should have it for peace of mind, and everyone agreed that we should hire them for the 3 nights.

Carole asked Jim about an outside shearing area, and he will look when he goes to the venue to check some space issues. Inside shearing in the North Hall was discussed and the noise factor for the youth and vendors may be an issue. Carole has talked to Morgan about using only half the North Hall because we can get some of the cost refunded, but then we would not have space for shearing. Arlene suggested that a visual drape would help, but Jim felt the noise would still be an issue. Bill suggested shearing could be outside if the weather is good.

Carole asked about a wash station for the suris, and Jim will double check that, but he's pretty sure it's in the North Hall where it connects to the Northwest Hall.

Carole asked about clean-up, Bill is arranging for manure buckets as he gets the total stall numbers.

Jim asked about AV equipment and Carole verified that we can get it all from the Farm Show people. Also internet should be sufficient.

Jim is planning a trip to the venue and will reach out to Morgan to arrange a time and people to meet with (electrician, etc.).

Carole has the menu for the Meet & Greet and will work with the caterer on that. We will have tables with food for people to get themselves. Estimate is high, and choices were not what we want, so Carole will work with her on that. Carole suggested we don't need a bar on Friday, only Thursday and Saturday. Bill thought we should forego it if the venue is going to charge us the \$250 set-up fee. Carole's understanding is that it's only if we don't meet the minimum sales of \$500, which we agreed we most likely will on Thursday and Saturday.

Seminars – Carole brought up having the judges do a class with the youth, and she built it into the schedule. Wade or Amanda might be able to do something Thursday at 4:00 about how to show alpacas for adults, or what the judges are looking for. Nicole thought this would be very helpful. Bill thought we could have seminars Saturday 1 to 3. Lori Oraschin will do one on Farm Taxes. Arlene suggested that Chris Reachard might do one on his Poop business.

Ribbons have been ordered. Carole had Scott estimate 30% over current need so we are sure to have enough.

Volunteers – Carole shared that Cheri Seiler and her friend will come and work the show for us if we provide them with a hotel room. She is working with Christine A. to run the show volunteers for us.

Vet Check-in: Carole suggested the vet could go onto the trailers to check the animals in and give them the paperwork. Bill thought that would help with having trailers bottlenecked also. Jim will look at the area to see how we might have them lined up and then come to an “unloading” area.

Sponsors will get color checked in their stalls. Jim will check on an area closer to the complex for sponsor unloading.

Arlene needs to get started on the show bags, so asked for a cut-off date for adding a bag sponsor. Carole suggested 4/1.

Carole shared the sponsor gifts that Alma is making.

Discussed which days our people are planning to arrive, as well as the issue coming up regarding Jonathan and the panels. Apparently he is trying to sell the panels so he may not be bringing them next year.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Carole brought up the possibility of a Fleece Show/Seminar weekend. Possible dates were discussed for working around the summer fleece shows that are put on by National's, PAOBA and EAA. A Fall date seemed more doable, and Bill suggested the weekend after NAFDs and October 1<sup>st</sup> was settled on. It could be promoted during the NAFD weekend. Location for this was discussed - VA, MD, western PA or OH. Will advertise the date at the show as “Save the Date”.

Carole and Barb will try to get more farms signing up for the show while they are at Buckeye this weekend.

Carole mentioned that there is talk about PAOBA and MAPACA joining up for a combined show in the future. The location in the future was discussed, including someplace in VA so we could draw more southern farms.

**Motion to adjourn at 8:18 pm by Bill, Second by Arlene. Motion carried.**

**Respectfully Submitted by: Barb Sodums, Secretary**