

Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association – Board Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2022

Meeting via Zoom - called to order at 7: 08 PM

Attendees: Carole Rost, Barb Sodums, Arlene Fusko, Mary Reed, Bill Oraschin, Nicole Phillips

Approval of Minutes: 4/12/22 Minutes – **Motion to approve by Arlene, Second by Nicole, Unanimous – Motion Carried**

Treasurer’s Report – Nicole: Projected show revenue – Total - \$14,263, Live Auction - \$25,585, Silent Auction - \$1172.

Nicole will send us the final report and spreadsheet once the expenses, etc. are finalized.

2022 Jubilee wrap-up:

Carole asked Nicole about a bill reminder she received from the caterers. Carole will send it over to Nicole.

Carole, Bill and Nicole all shared how many positive comments they received from people at the show. Everyone seemed closer and able to socialize more than usual. Arlene noted how relaxed and fun it seemed, with lots of camaraderie.

Mary mentioned that the Thank You notes for the Auction donators and buyers that Barb is sending out are a nice acknowledgement for the support the auction brings.

Bill asked that we acknowledge JimNogier’s work as Barn Manager because he won’t take money. Carole shared that she had picked up his entire hotel expense. Barb will send him a special thank you note.

Carole noted that we ended up not having to pay for parking. Some people purchased extra passes will need to be refunded. Nicole will take care of this.

Membership discussion:

Membership currently is at 39 farms. 23 members from last year didn’t renew. Nicole suggested sending out an email to encourage people to renew.

Carole brought up the need to try to find people to run for the board for this summer’s election. DJ Penica has expressed interested in coming onto our board, although she is on the PAOBA board. Possible conflict of interest was discussed. Barb will talk to DJ more when she sees her. Discussed the need to personally reach out to people to try to encourage more people to run for the board.

Barb mentioned that she is posting a PS at the end of all the Auction Thank You emails that “We need people to run for our Board....”.

2023 Jubilee Discussion:

Carole reported that right now we have a tentative date penciled in with the Westminster venue for the weekend of April 14th (after Easter weekend). The Harrisburg show venue is only

available March 30 – April 2, which is the same weekend as Scott Young’s North American/North East Expo show. It was agreed that we should not have it that weekend because Scott has been our Superintendent and would not be available (or possibly want to in the future), and Judy S. is scheduled for the MOPACA show that weekend and is not available. Nicole mentioned how great Scott has been to work with. Barb asked if we’ve checked if he is available for 2023 and Nicole reported that she’d talked to him and was pretty sure he is. Carole will check with him.

Carole is going to check on a couple of other possible venues for the show near her, but all are agreed that the Westminster venue would be fine. At the next meeting we will vote on the final venue and weekend so that we can procure judges and get our dates up on the AOA and MAPACA websites.

Barb pointed out that we need to decide on whether to have a 2 or 3-day show. Putting out a survey with pros and cons of each in order to canvass our members and exhibitors was discussed as a way to make that decision.

Panel discussion: Carole has talked with Tim McCarty about the possibility of having panels manufactured and storing them, but he suggested a 5-year commitment for us to lease them which we all agreed was too long. We also would need to figure out how to transport them. Mary explained the situation with Jonathan providing panels, with the timeline since March at Nationals, when he decided to sell the panels and not provide the set-up services after this spring, until recently when he has indicated to her that he wants to deliver and do set-up in the future. Mary has stored the panels she purchased and is willing to lease them to MAPACA if Jonathan can commit to pick-up and return. She will continue to follow-up with him about this. Carole noted that EAA is expecting Jonathan to provide panels for the fall show also.

Fall Event Discussion:

It was agreed that with 3 Summer fleece shows already happening it wouldn’t be a good idea for MAPACA to have a fall fleece show.

Bill offered to host an educational weekend at his farm late September or early October and suggested bringing Marty McGee Bennett for a 2-day clinic. All agreed that this would be a good idea. Barb will check Marty’s clinic schedule and let Bill know so he can contact Marty. The 2nd weekend in October is the best for Bill.

Carole suggested we could have our Annual Meeting at the event as well.

Nicole shared her thoughts about MAPACA taking steps to decide what we want to offer our membership. She suggested that we need to have more to offer, including periodic educational events, possibly using technology to make things available via Zoom to people who can’t attend.

Next Zoom Meeting scheduled for Tuesday 6/14 at 7:00 pm

Motion by Bill to Adjourn at 8:20, Arlene seconded, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by: Barb Sodums, Secretary