



# MINUTES

## Mid-Atlantic Alpaca Association

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*Date | time* February 13, 2018 | *Meeting called to order by* Chris Reachard at 7:30 pm

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### In Attendance

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Chris Reachard, Carole Rost, Bill Oraschin, Randy Strong, Bryan Mindte, Arlene Fusko, Sue Rose, Chris Armstrong

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### Approval of Minutes

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The minutes were approved with no amendments. Motion by Arlene; seconded by Carole. Motion passed unanimously.

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### Board

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Chris welcomed Sue to the Board.

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### Jubilee 2018

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**Youth Coordinator.** Carole reported that Karen Bowman, a teacher and alpaca owner, is willing to serve as Youth Coordinator for 2018 for little if no expense. Previously, the Board has paid the expenses of Pat Algar whose travel expenses from Colorado totaled \$1,250 in 2017. The Board agreed to have Carole ask Karen and pay hotel expense for Friday and Saturday nights of the Show. Bill will contact Pat and thank her for her past participation. Motion by Sue; seconded by Arlene. Motion passed unanimously.

**Youth Fun Classes.** The Board agreed to hold the Youth Fun Classes on Friday, April 20, 2018 and expressed a wish for an experienced non-certified judge for the event. Bill recommended Tom and Rose Sutkins of Deerwood Alpacas, who have 4H judging experience. The Board agreed to have Bill ask Tom and Rose to participate with perhaps a gift card as a small token of appreciation.

**Auction.** Carole reported that Brett Kasin will not be available for the Auction this year. Randy confirmed this. The Board asked Randy if he would consider serving as auctioneer and he agreed.

**Vendors.** Randy is working on adding possible vendors such as Cummins and others. The Board agreed that such vendors will receive signage and announcements at the Show; small informational table area, and acknowledgement on the MAPACA website for one year. Chris asked that all vendors be asked to provide their logos and weblinks. A trade show-like booth or space for a large donation, e.g., mower, may also be available.

**Herdsires.** Randy is working on acquiring herdsires for the Show auction and several barns are interested. The Board agreed that we are looking for quality animals over specific color.

**Early Bird Registration.** Chris Armstrong joined the Board for a discussion of Early Bird Registration. This registration is starting off a bit slower than the previous year, which may be the result of restrictions on the Small Breeder show. She provided Excel spreadsheets and printouts of progress so far. The spreadsheet is now color coded to show which shows were entered by which farms. Early Bird Registration is open through Friday, February 23, 2018. The Board agreed to not extend the early bird registration at this time.

**Website.** Chris A will update our website and work through some of the kinks associated with modifying previous year information. She would appreciate hearing about any difficulties/modifications we notice on the site.

**Meeting.** Chris reported that the meeting at the Farm Show Complex will be held Wednesday, February 21, 2018 at 1 pm. Chris, Carole, Sue, Bill, Randy, Bryan and Arlene will attend.

**Rings.** Carole reported that she is pursuing options for covering our five 60' x 80' foot rings. Inexpensive fake grass carpeting might be an option and Bill remembered that a previous estimate of this carpet ran about \$2,600. Randy will work on receiving quotes from perhaps Lowe's or Home Depot and explore the idea of a discount for MAPACA.

Chris A left the meeting at 8:14 pm.

**Mundo Fibra Area.** Chris reported that Natalie Berger will return to present classes and will donate an item to the Auction. In the previous two years, she donated a rigid heddle loom and a spinning wheel. Chris also reported that Theresa Jewell of Stone Mountain Looms will attend as well and the Board agreed to pay for her hotel room.

**Fleece to Shawl Competition.** Chris reported that there will be at least three teams this year and has procured two judges at a cost of \$250 each.

**Raffle.** Bill reminded the Board that a gaming permit is needed with a list of the items for the raffle. Chris generously offered to donate a 2018 Winter Olympic sweater (made with alpaca fiber) and the Board agreed to add a second tier 50-50 raffle.

**Sponsorships.** Carole reported that Peruvian Link would like a more personal sponsorship like a Meet & Greet sponsorship. The Board agreed to have Carole pursue that idea for a higher price. Typical vendor spots currently cost \$1,500. In 2017, the Meet & Greet charged \$16.95 per person for 200 people.

**Food.** Chris reported that the venue food vendor, SAVOR, has raised their prices and that our contract does not permit bringing in outside food or beverages. A dinner meal of pork or chicken will cost \$30 pp. Bill added that, if outside beverages were brought, SAVOR would charge a 30% gratuity. Randy will explore the possibility of a discount from SAVOR if we offer them a sponsorship.

**Venue.** The Board discussed the pursuit of another venue for next year. The Syracuse, NY location that is used for the Showtacular will be in a new building. Bill will explore the idea of an empty warehouse along the I78 corridor east of Harrisburg. Our current rented space encompasses 185,000 square feet and Carole reported that we would need at least 150,000 square feet to hold the Show.

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## Other Business

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Randy reported that he did not receive yesterday's agenda and had trouble paying registration via a credit card that wasn't Paypal. Chris will adjust the forwarding emails for [bod@mapaca.org](mailto:bod@mapaca.org) and check registration. Sue will send Randy the agenda.

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## Adjournment

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The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm. Motion by Bill; seconded by Arlene. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted by: Sue Rose, Secretary