

VAOBA
Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting
of Board of Directors

March 4, 2006

The monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of VAOBA was held on Saturday, March 4, 2006 at 12:30pm at the home of Sue Hammer and Judy Howe in Caroline County.

In attendance (representing 8 votes) were: Judy Howe, Sue Hammer, Mary Halsted, David Smith, Glenda and Mike Hertless, Geoff and Pam Whiting, Hank Boyd, Linda Polak, Robin Hall, Ken Chapman and Sue Ives.

Meeting was called to order at 12:30pm by Glenda Hertless, President. Minutes were recorded by Sue Ives, Secretary.

Discussion ensued regarding an issue to be brought before the Board for a vote. During the course of work on the VAOBA Expo, various seminars and presenters had been assembled to promote alpaca education both to new and existing breeders. In that regard, Jane Christie, acting as Coordinator had signed an alpaca basics type seminar; and Sue Ives, Committee Chair, and Linda Polak, Board Liaison, (both Board members) had received confirmations from two VAOBA members to present health related and security related seminars.

While finalizing advertising and promotion for the show, a serious disagreement arose between the (now former) Show Coordinator and the Show Committee Board Liaison regarding the treatment of Virginia instructors, both in the selection to present, and in promotion of, seminars offered in Virginia in general and, in particular, at the Expo. The issue was whether Virginia instructors would be approached to offer this information whenever possible, and be promoted for their efforts, or whether we as an Association would look to outside sources so that no Virginia farm was being publicized. The coordinator e mailed the entire board suggesting that the liaison was putting "considerable pressure" upon her to do something she felt was wrong; however, the liaison felt that our Association's entire Mission is to promote our Virginia industry and farms; that when we have knowledgeable Virginia sources, we should be utilizing those and promoting our State's industry. Upon reaching this impasse, and with communication having been initiated to the Board by the coordinator, the liaison asked for a Board vote regarding the Board's and Association's position on promotion of Virginia business, and, because of her personal involvement in the issue, the liaison abstained from the vote.

Motion made by Ken Chapman: In view of the VAOBA Mission Statement, I move to promote Virginia alpaca farms and to encourage Virginia alpaca farms to conduct and present educational programs under the auspices of VAOBA with the intent of providing balance and opportunity for both individual alpaca farms and VAOBA members. Seconded by David Smith. All in favor. Linda Polak abstaining.

Above discussion and motion prompted:

Motion made by Geoff Whiting: That the VAOBA exhibitor show packets include a solicitation of ideas for future educational seminars and presenters as well as comments and critique of the current show.

Motion seconded by Linda Polak
All in favor.

An email received from Jane Christie in which she tendered her resignation from the Show Committee was brought to the table.

Motion made by Mike Hertless: That the resignation offered by Jane Christie from the Show Committee be accepted.

Motion seconded by Judy Howe
All in favor; Sue Ives and Linda Polak abstaining

Treasurers report: as attached.

David stated that he is looking into credit card merchant status for VAOBA and is waiting on info now from a couple of banks. A suggestion was made that we consider looking into Pay Pal as well.

Critique of January meeting. Glenda Hertless suggested more involvement and attention by directors in the planning of these meetings in order to avoid a heavy workload and stress on one or two individuals. All who attended felt that the meeting was well received by the members and a success.

Next meeting: April 22nd; 12:00pm; Ladysmith Rescue Squad if available. Ken Chapman will check into availability.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted:

Sue Ives
Secretary