

VIRGINIA ALPACA OWNERS & BREEDERS ASSOCIATION
MEETING MINUTES
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2006
18295 Hewlett Road
Beaverdam, VA 23015
5:00 pm

I. Welcome & Call to Order

II. Attendance Roster: Present @ meeting-Judy Howe, Sue Ives, Linda Polak, Present by conference call: Donna Snyder, Phil Hatcher, Les Fuller

III. Old Business/Committee Reports

A. Show Matters-

Sue Ives reported that she will meet with American Stall Rentals on Monday, October 30 to check pen panels. VAOBA has rented 40 temporary stalls to house > 380 alpacas for the Expo.

Wed/Thurs (11/1 & 2) tent set-up will take place. This will include an Exhibition tent and Pavilion tent. Tents have also been rented to cover the show ring in case of rain, but may be refused if not needed.

Thurs (11/2) alterations to the stall doors will be made, making them more secure for the alpacas.

Friday (11/3)- a face to face meeting of the BOD will take place at 7pm (after color check-in is completed) in the Seminar tent to take care of last minute details and to transfer responsibility of secretary and treasurer at this time.

The BOD agreed to send out a mass email to the VAOBA membership recruiting help for set-up on Thursday.

B. “Critical & Creative Thinking” Meeting for Expo 11/18/06 has been set (time to be determined) for critique of the show experience by the BOD, exhibitors, and committee chairs. Anyone who will not be able to attend has been asked to submit their critique and ideas to Linda Polack prior to the meeting

IV. New Business

A. Regular meeting dates for BOD- It was determined that the BOD would meet monthly with the next meeting (after the Expo) planned for Sunday, Dec. 3 @ 4p, as a telephone conference call. Face to face meetings will take place quarterly with the next one on Friday 11/3 at the Expo.

B. Board Liaisons for committee chairs was presented as a way of improving communication between Committee Chairs and the BOD. This would accommodate the growth within the organization and industry to allow for greater participation from the membership throughout the state. Verbal and written reports would be given monthly to the designated BOD liaison member who would report for that committee

at the monthly BOD meeting. The secretary would include these reports in the monthly minutes.

- C. Seminar Schedule- Judy Howe gave the Education Committee report with the proposed and approved seminars as follows:
1. Feb 24 & 25- Dr. Cheryl DeWitt will present a Neonatal Seminar that would accommodate 30 people/day. Place and time is to be determined. The cost would be \$5775. Dawn Dolpp will apply for a \$1000 AOBA educational grant towards this cost.
 2. June 23 & 24- Ian Watts (from Australia) would present a seminar on Fiber, Genetics, & Pasture Management. It was proposed to do this seminar in 2 different sites within the state or possibly as a joint venture with Virginia Tech. The cost for the 2 days is \$3775, which would include his travel expenses from California.
 3. Dr. Andy Meriwether has agreed to give a ½ day seminar on Genetics (which would include color genetics, BEW, gene mapping, diseases) to be given at our annual meeting in July. Dr. Meriwether lives in N.Y. and has agreed to drive to Virginia and stay at a local farm. The cost will be \$1650. Dawn Dolpp will also apply for an AOBA grant for this seminar.

The question was raised if Virginia Tech is starting a Camelid Department. The answer is uncertain. Les Fuller will check into this and report back to the BOD. VAOBA is willing to support this effort if initiated.

D. Membership drive meetings were voted to be eliminated and replaced by concentration on retention of the current membership, with encouragement of the membership to recruit new members in their own community. This was voted to be accomplished by offering a free VAOBA 1 year membership to members who recruit 5(?)* new farms within a year. A mass email will be sent out to the VAOBA membership with this advertisement.

VI. Other business- Linda Polock presented the idea of mass marketing VAOBA throughout the state. Ideas included possibly advertising VAOBA in the 'Virginia' magazine or taking over the regional satellite television advertisement by AOBA that would direct potential clients to the VAOBA website and the local farm listings. It was thought that an advertisement committee may need to be established. Linda Polock agreed to check into pricing for this endeavor.

VIII. Meeting Adjournment at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Snyder