

VIRGINIA ALPACA OWNERS & BREEDERS ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MARCH 13, 2007  
MINUTES

I. Call to Order - Attendance

The meeting commenced at 7:00pm. In attendance were directors Les Fuller, Glenda Hertless, and Judy Howe; president, Linda Polak, and president elect, Sue Ives, constituting a quorum of the Board of Directors. Absent were secretary, Donna Snyder, and treasurer, Phil Hatcher. Linda Polak called the meeting to order and presided; Glenda Hertless acted as secretary of the meeting in Donna Snyder's absence.

II. Review and Approval of February Minutes

The Minutes of the February 4, 2007 board meeting were reviewed and discussed. With the change in attendance to reflect that Judy Howe had been in attendance, upon motion duly made and seconded, the vote was taken and the Minutes of the February 4, 2007 meeting were approved as changed.

III. Committee Reports

A. Education

The grant application for the upcoming neonatal seminar was approved by the Affiliate Committee and sent to AOBA for final approval. Sue Ives presented for director information the seminars being developed for the Expo. Dawn Dolpp, Education Committee Chair, had prepared a list of future planned seminars: the neonatal at Virginia Tech in late March; Ian Watts in June; and the genetics talk at the annual meeting in late July. It was decided that we will secure the Charlottesville meeting room for the June seminar and July annual meeting. VAOBA will have Dr. DeWitt hold a seminar on Friday night for veterinary students interested in camelids, and our next e mail blast to VAOBA members will include a request for books for the veterinary library.

B. Membership

The membership total is now 122 farm and associate members. VAOBA will have a booth at the Virginia Classic; Dawn Dolpp has volunteered to man it, and to conduct the raffle, the proceeds of which will be used to buy books for the Virginia Tech veterinary book drive.

Membership costs will remain at \$100 farm/\$35 associate until June. Instead of pro rating any memberships, we will have members join as associates until renewal time, and then pick up the farm membership for the full year.

This year a membership directory will be prepared; renewal notices will include the notice to members that, in order to be included in the directory, renewals will have to be received by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

C. Show

1. 2007 Expo

Judi Bisson is the volunteer and vendor coordinator;

Ben Rogers of Heronwood is the sponsorship coordinator

Elijah Marks is the publicity and marketing coordinator

There are still several coordinators still needed: (1) Show shirts; (2) show ring; (3) concessions & banquet; (4) sales ad

The dining room is needed from Friday morning through Sunday evening for the fleeces show; dinner will be held elsewhere

this year. Linda Polak will contact the dining room Manager at Deep Run to discuss contract.

Kathy Schwartz resigned as event coordinator; Sue is contacting Linda Hatcher to determine interest.

Judges are confirmed: Ruth Inglefield - Performance and clinic

Diana Timmerman - fleece

Kevin O'Leary - halter

Wade Gease - halter

Ben Rogers phoned into the meeting at 7:45pm to discuss sponsorships. Ben had prepared a list of sponsorship opportunities, together with a suggested plan of presenting them and had forwarded them earlier for director review and comment. 9 stalls will be added to provide for dinner sponsorships. Otherwise, sponsorships as presented were approved by directors. Patty - for spin off sponsorships will target Georgia Mountain Fiber; ask them to donate something significant to the silent auction. In return, have a sign and ad in the show program; link to website. Target vendors rather than farms for this.

## 2. VAOBA Participation in Virginia Classic

Sue still needs quite a few volunteers for the show: ring stewards, gate stewards and halter clerks. If volunteers do not sign up before the show, she will have to enlist helpers there.

## IV. Old Business

A. Affiliate congress - Linda Polak reported that the congress is working on several issues to bring before their memberships. These include various show items. Also, several members of the congress, in response to their members' requests, have been pressing for a breed standard yes or no vote to be included on the upcoming ballot.

B. Virginia Agribusiness - As per the vote of directors at the February meeting, VAOBA has signed up for membership in the Virginia Agribusiness Council.

C. Advertising - Patty Fuller will compose an ad that can be used in various publications, including the Virginia Farm Bureau Magazine, with a reference to the website. AOBAs are not to be contacted again regarding the television spot until August. This ad will run just prior to - and feature - the Expo, in addition to containing a website reference.

D. Mark Bisson is working on a "farms by region" section of the website according to counties in which farms are located. Elijah Marks has volunteered to set up a separate Expo website.

## V. Newsletter Contributions

VAOBA's Newsletter Editor, Susan Schmidtke, has asked for articles from members.

The next e mail blast will include such a request. Also, she has requested that the President's message be sent by the 5<sup>th</sup> if possible, 10<sup>th</sup> at the latest, of the month prior to publication dates on the 15<sup>th</sup> of February, May, August and November. Committee reports are due no later than the 15<sup>th</sup> of the prior month.

## VI. New Business

National Alpaca Farm Day has been set by AOBAs for September 29<sup>th</sup>. The AOBAs BOD has asked the affiliate congress to seek to have this day declared as such by the governors of their home states. Linda Polak has contacted Governor Kaine's office and has begun the paperwork to be submitted to the governor for consideration. His staff member asked for a detailed description of why this would be important to Virginia, the industry in

Virginia, and a draft of the document. Linda, Glenda and Sue will finalize this for presentation to VAOBA directors for review and comment; then submit to Governor Kaine.

Sue was asked if discounts for members on pen spaces had been considered. She will look into this and further discussion will take place at the April board meeting.

Judy Howe asked about the corporate filings and the taxes. Linda Polak responded that the Virginia annual corporate report and corporate tax bill had been received by her as registered agent, and were due by the end of April. Linda will send these in with a check from the VAOBA Account. Also, the IRS representative who assisted with the 501(c)(5) preparation had conveyed that no filing would be necessary as long as VAOBA did not (1) bring in more than \$100,000 in the fiscal year; or (2) receive money from sources which would not be acceptable as tax exempt under their non-profit designation. Neither of these occurred in the past fiscal year; but Linda will re-verify with IRS that no filing is required.

Judy raised the question of the treasurer not being able to attend meetings, and therefore not even having picked up the checkbook for undertaking treasurer responsibilities. She questioned how to correct this situation. The by laws will be reviewed to see if they address the situation of an officer not undertaking responsibility for the position.

#### VII. Adjournment

The date and time for the next VAOBA board meeting was set on Tuesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at 7:30pm.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, and vote taken, the meeting was adjourned.

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Acting Secretary in  
Donna Snyder's Absence