

Virginia Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association Board of Directors Meeting

June 9, 2008

In Attendance:

Sue Ives (President)
Keli Harold (President Elect)
Linda Polak (Past President)
Joanna Maas (Secretary)
Les Fuller (Director at Large)
Judy Howe (Director at Large)

Meeting was called to order at 7:52pm.

Linda moved to approve the minutes from the May meeting; Les seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report:
Current bank balance is \$39,503.18.

Committee Reports:

Education: No report
Fiber Committee: No report

Industry Relations:
Linda reported that the farm bill was signed; however, alpacas were not specifically mentioned. We now know who we have to deal with for the next edition. Also, Colorado is considering reclassifying alpacas as exotics, which would remove the tax benefits to ownership. This is being watched closely.

Marketing:
No report at this point. (Keli entered the call later)

Membership:
The membership committee submitted their finalized letter, which looks great and will be sent to new farms.

Newsletter:
The deadline for the next newsletter is July 31. Ray would like articles submitted!

Additionally, he has requested permission to buy new software for producing the newsletter, as the software he has is quite old and it isn't doing the job. Les moved that

we authorize the purchase of software up to \$250. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Show:

Keli would like to consider hiring a consultant to handle the press/publicity for the show. Jane Tholen has sent a proposal to Keli (she will forward to the rest of board); it would cover press contacts, press kits, pre-show contacts, follow-up, etc. for \$5000 plus expenses (up to \$1000.) Discussion followed – we would like to make sure the press would not just focus on the Lexington/surrounding area, but be statewide. Keli will get back with her and see how this might affect the price.

Annual Meeting:

We have the Charlottesville site reserved for July 26th. The schedule has been set and David Barbosa is speaking on the new AOBA Youth committee and benefits of AOBA membership, also answering questions re: AOBA. He is planning on driving in from Tennessee so he can visit some of the regional farms.

Election:

Joanna will be sending the election packets out; plans are to send them on/about June 20th. The slate (which may change) currently stands at:

President Elect:	Ken Crews
Secretary:	Joanna Maas
Treasurer:	Hank Boyd, Joe Kyger (needs to get his membership in first)
Director:	Les Fuller, Todd Carey, Larry Dudding

Ballots used to be mailed to the inspector of elections; however, Ken will not be able to attend the meeting. Ballots will be mailed to Sue and brought to the general meeting for opening.

Membership renewals will be mailed with ballots – we will include postage both on the membership renewals and the ballots to encourage participation. Linda will check with Hank and let us know the membership committee would like the renewals sent – need to figure out how to handle the money. We'll include a cover letter to clarify what all the enclosures are. We also discussed printing the 2008-9 membership directories, and decided to put the membership committee in charge of the preparation. Les suggested printing the same number of directories as last year as there were less than a box left and we distributed these to members and at our events throughout the year.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 14th at 7:30pm.

Linda moved to adjourn; Judy seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned at 8:52pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Joanna Maas