



Virginia Alpaca Owners & Breeders Association Board of Directors' Meeting

September 15, 2008

Call Meeting to Order

Attendance:

Keli Harold (President)
Ken Crews (President Elect)
Sue Ives (Past President)
Joanna Maas (Secretary)
Fred Obenchain (Treasurer)
Judy Howe (Director-at-Large)
Les Fuller (Director-at-Large)

Meeting was called to order at 7:38pm.

Approve Minutes: August 18, 2008

Fred moved to approve the minutes; Judy seconded. Motion passed unanimously (Sue abstained due to absence at last meeting.)

Treasurer's Report

44789. Opening balance
44495 – deposits in August
27497 – deposits in September
Expend - 11202.80
Balance 105578.42

Fred advises that we get a committee together to form an annual budget based in history. This doesn't have to be done before the show, but it gives us some more guidance on how to spend money. Judy volunteered to help on budgeting with the show expenses as she will have just gone through it for the 2008 show.

Committee Reports

Education Committee – Patty has asked to purchase an LCD projector for PowerPoint presentations – all presenters are using these presentations. She can get one locally for \$625.00, which was better than any online deals he had found. Sue moves that the Education committee purchase the equipment as proposed; Fred seconded; the motion passed unanimously. (Fred noted that all reusable equipment needs to be inventoried for IRS purposes.)



Patty will also be sending the finalized list of speakers and topics to Judy for posting on the website. Lou Houston (French Hollow) has been added to the schedule with a 90 min marketing seminar; she is waiting on Ray Tubbs' bio and picture.

Fiber Committee – no report received.

Industry Relations –

We are trying to get the show waiver from the State Vet.

Linda and Keli attended the meeting at David Canter's office; mostly about his and the Ag Council's policies. We have expressed our concern on how alpacas are presented in the Farm Bill.

Marketing -

We have sent Jane Tholen information for getting the press/media kits together (Keli is working with her.) Shenandoah Valley Magazine would like to feature our show and a picture of an alpaca and owner on the cover. Don Roadcap is the contact. Ken expressed concern that we might get compared to emus, etc. Sue suggested that we send him to the VAOBA website to find local farms so we don't appear to show favors.

Membership -

We have three new farms for associate memberships. Fred and Sue both expressed concern that some of these farms are abusing their privileges as members and getting their stalling discounts which exceed their payments for associate membership. Sue suggested we revisit this in November or December (after the show.)

Newsletter -

Ray will now be in charge of processing the newsletter as well as editing it.

Show:

Patty asked if the fleece show awards and special awards in the show ring at lunch – Sue was concerned that due to entries, the judging may run long and the lunches may be short. Patty suggested that if they do oral reasons for the fleece show, it should be done in the fleece area. We need to remember that the special awards must be taken by show staff back to the fleeces; owners can't just take them as the fleece show superintendent is responsible for the fleeces until the show closes.

There was general discussion re: sponsorships and receipt of ads for the show book.

Fred noted that the photographer needed to be listed as a vendor so that people have contact info easily accessible if needed.



Joanna will need to contact the caterer regarding a possible decrease in banquet attendees and a definite increase in need for the Friday night potato buffet. (currently 259 for Friday night.)

Patty has volunteered to make signs for the seminars, and would like anyone who has sign needs to send them to her ASAP.

Keli has not heard back from our State Vet regarding a waiver of testing requirements for the show. They have found info on the goat people's site that they don't have to get TB or brucellosis for bringing goats in for exhibition purposes only. OR, Sue suggested that we could also ask that animals from TB/Brucellosis-free states (like cattle) for exhibition purposes only.

Judy asked if we can get an idea of what the schedule looks like for the volunteer coordinator as she's getting some resistance to volunteering until they know when they will be showing. Sue said that this is not going to be available until entries close. Total entries are 751 alpacas (including the special classes).

Ray has asked David (AOBA President), Keli (VAOBA President), Jennifer Folkman (AOBA youth division representative) and Ray (VAOBA youth division representative) to present Judges and People's Choice awards for the 4H presentations. Major photo-op for us! Bring your cameras!!

We are on the Show Solutions website now so we do have the screens for display.

We need someone to put together a VAOBA show survey that we can include in show packets. We also need to ask if we want to do a 60/40 or a 50/50 show for next year.

Also, in replacing Shannon McConnell for next year, we have two potential judges (West Coast based) which might be a good thing as most wouldn't have already shown to these judges.

Action Items from Previous Meetings:

- Email addresses for VAOBA BOD members –
We should be getting instructions on setting up our accounts.
- Checking Account—where are we with it, who the are signers on account
Sue did order additional deposit slips. The checks were ordered without an address on them so that they would continue to be OK through any personnel changes. Linda also has some checks still and is sending them back for someone else to use.
- Advertising in Newsletter—Keli was supposed to research where this was previously discussed within the Board of Directors Board Members' vision for



VAOBA in upcoming year. Back when this was previously discussed, it was decided that it would be \$40 for one insert (supplied) into the newsletter. We are getting money in and only spending postage.

Also, we allowed members to put press release-type inserts (not advertising such as money). Additionally, members may use the advertising space in the VAOBA forum. However, no one has really been using this method.

New Business:

Proposed Meeting BOD Dates: October 13,
 November 10,
 December 8,
 January 12,
 February 9,
 March 9,
 April 13,
 May 18,
 June 15 and
 July 20

If others have conflicts with these dates, please let us know and we can reschedule.

For November 10th meeting, we will have a critique starting at 7:00 pm and then follow with a board meeting.

Calendar of Events:

VAOBA Expo, **October 17-19** (Lexington, VA)
AOBA Mid-Winter Educational Conference, **January 16-18, 2009** (Las Vegas, NV)
NV Affiliate Congress Face-to-Face meeting tentative (Las Vegas, NV)
Virginia Classic, **March 14-15, 2009** (Lexington, VA)
World Alpaca Conference and AOBA National Conference, **June 3-7, 2009**
(Cleveland, OH)
VAOBA Annual Meeting, **July 11, 2008** (Tentative)
VAOBA Expo, **October 16-18, 2009** (Lexington, VA)

Adjournment:

Les moved to adjourn; Judy seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:24pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanna Maas