

Virginia Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association

Monthly Board Meeting
Minutes

December 8, 2008

Attendees:

Sue Ives – Past President
Keli Harold – Current President
Ken Crews – President Elect
Joanna Maas – Secretary
Les Fuller – Director at Large

Ray Tubbs – Newsletter and Youth Division

Meeting was called to order at 7:39 pm, following the show analysis meeting discussion.

Minutes from the November minutes – tabled pending secretary's receipt of the November Education report. Minutes will be circulated for approval via email.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer not present.

Committee Reports:

Education –

January 17, 2009 – Alpaca Field Day / Info Workshop

Virginia State University is concerned about a tiered pricing structure to attendees. The most practical route would be to move it to a single fee.

Sue moved that we accept a \$40/attendee fee for attendance of the workshop; Les seconded; motion approved unanimously.

Keli proposed that we invite the State Vets as a guest of VAOBA; additionally, due to the grazing systems seminar, inviting extension agents would be beneficial. Sue moves that VAOBA invite members of the VDACS, State Vet's office, the regional veterinary board, and the extension agents to attend as our guests. Les seconded; motion passes unanimously.

Sue suggested that we extend invitations to members of other regional affiliates to attend the workshop.

Patty has requested reimbursement for one-night hotel room for Patty Fuller for this workshop. Sue moved that we approve this request; Joanna seconded; motion approved unanimously with Les abstaining.

Neonatal Clinic has been scheduled; Dr. DeWitt wants to schedule an additional day of seminars geared for vets and specifically on emergency care of alpacas. It would cost approx. \$500 extra to cover her expenses but would be great to offer this to all vets as our guest.

Les moved that we accept the proposal for an additional day of seminars; Sue seconded and motion passed unanimously.

The registration fee for the March 6th neonatal clinic needs to be revisited.

Another concern is the ability of a farm to invite clients to attend at the VAOBA reduced rate. Per April 2007, the board made a policy that a farm may invite two clients to attend at VAOBA's reduced rate. They will not be able to register a client until after February 1st. This doesn't necessarily encourage farms to become VAOBA members to get the membership. Les moved that we remove this provision, and make a policy that all attendees either attend as members of VAOBA or pay the non-member fee. Joanna seconded; motion approved unanimously.

Fiber: No report received.

Industry Relations – Sue, Keli, Linda, and Paige McGrath attended the AgBusiness Council on Nov 19th with a position paper on import testing issues. They discussed the issue and established a friendly agreement about taking a look at this issue more closely. We made a good impression on the council and hope to have the waiver for the 2009 show.

Marketing – We got the final report on comparable ad value from Tholen Associates. There was a section on Virginia Farming featuring Keli talking about alpacas in Virginia.

Membership – No membership report received.

Newsletter: The November newsletter went out.

Show Reports:

Stephanie Glyptis for halter, Sharon Loner halter; Linda Hayes for performance; have not heard back from Amanda VandenBosche, Tim Lavan, Dianna Timmerman

OLD BUSINESS:

The Presidents will not be attending the Las Vegas Affiliate Congress as it has been disbanded by AOBA.

Keli is working on the Request for Proposals for the 2009 shows.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jan 15th – the Agribusiness Council Appreciation Banquet. It's a great opportunity to meet/greet legislators, etc. Our Industry Relations Committee decided that VAOBA

should sponsor a table for \$1080; our legislator guest is Margi VanderHye from Fairfax. We get six people from our group; Sue, Ken, Keli, Linda Polak, Ray Tubbs, Patty Fuller will be our invited contingent.

The budget cuts are affecting the 4H programs, and Ray is having his state senator and delegate visit the farm and would like the kids to go to the state assembly to represent their clubs. They would like VAOBA to buy tshirts for the trip. Sue moved that VAOBA provide funds up to \$200 to pay for these shirts. Joanna seconded; movement passed unanimously.

Sue got an email from Harry Leist regarding receipt of monies from the sale of VAOBA merchandise from the show; funds have not gone out. Someone will need to follow up with Catie Dutcher to make sure that she has sent the proper paperwork with Fred to cut checks.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 12th at 7:30pm.

Keli moved to adjourn; Les seconded. The meeting ended at 9:32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Maas