

Virginia Alpaca Owners and Breeders Association

Monthly Board Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2009

Attendees:

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

Meeting was called to order at 7:36pm.

Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance : \$42,184.88
Available balance: \$39,015.28

Fred opened a show account and transferred 10K into it; Judy and Fred need to sign a signatory card and he has requested a debit card for Judy on the show account and a debit card for himself on the main account.

Sue moved that we accept the treasurer's report as presented; Judy seconded, motion approved unanimously.

Youth Committee – Ray is traveling to the Alpaca World Conference at his own cost and as an AYA member – Keli wondered if we could help with a small amount of expenses. Les had concerns about if he was going and representing his farm – if he was not and only representing the youth programs and VAOBA, OK. Keli will check.

Ray also needs help getting the trailer to Blacksburg for a seminar at the 4H conference at Virginia Tech. Les and Judy offered to meet halfway to get this done.

Education Committee: Patty is resigning as Education Committee chair; Keli recognized all her efforts and work. She is also concerned about staffing of all the committees. Fred asked if we had applicants for all the Board of Director positions. Fred suggested that the incoming president have discretion over the appointment of all committee chairs. Les felt that the bylaws did not indicate a term length.

Fiber – No report received.

Industry Relations Committee: No report received.

Marketing – No report received.

Membership – there have been no changes in the membership since the last meeting.

Keli expressed significant difficulty in getting volunteers for BOD or Nominating committees. There are three people who have expressed interest in the available positions. We will need to send out email blasts and ask individuals to step up and become involved. The ballots will need to go out 30 days prior to the meeting.

Newsletter – The newsletter goes out this week.

2009 Expo –

The website has a lot more on it. The vendor, sponsorships, and spin-off information has gone out. She did have a concern about a farm network group purchasing a sponsorship. There was general concern about the external stalling promise in the gold sponsorship. Les pointed out it would be important to allow additional stalling in the gold area on an as-available basis so as not to crowd out other gold sponsors.

Judy also had concerns about putting together panels for the internal stalling for the coliseum. Hank hasn't presented a finished panels plan, and there are concerns that these are available in adequate numbers in time for the show. Sue suggested that it was important to get additional external bids. Ken suggested sending out a specification profile and getting bids on that.

Judy needs help in getting marketing out on the show. Fred suggested that we get posters and fliers and get them out to the National show. Judy said that ads for the show monitors at PAOBA's show and also is supposed to be on the monitors at the National show. Judy also was thinking of newspaper, media, etc. to get the public attending as spectators. She will talk to Patty for ideas.

Sue said that we are now on the website as a certified show. Jude Anderson is replacing Amanda VandenBosche as Amanda cannot make travel requirements. Judges Choice Awards are new – need at least 450 alpacas and at least 6 championships, and the champions compete against each other. (Males and females are judged separately, and huacaya separately from suris.) This is the last class of the show. Production classes will be after lunch on Saturday. This also contributes to increasing participation in the production classes and keeping people later on Sunday. Ray has asked to add a Gambler's Choice class and an Egg on Spoon class with the performance judge, and to have the Costume class in the Huacaya halter ring over Saturday lunch.

Sue listed the show on AlpacaNation's calendar.

Virginia's Finest – It has been communicated to us that we are not going to receive an answer for chairmanship of the Virginia's Finest Task Force. We can open this up to the general membership for task force members – if we don't get volunteers, we will not pursue additional action on this item.

New Business:

Annual meeting – We have the Albemarle County Office Building (where we have hosted our annual meeting for the last few years) booked for July 18th. David Notter will be speaking on the EPD programs . We will use the same format as we have used in the past – speaker in the morning, then meeting conducted while we have lunch. We had 6’ subs for lunch last year.

Sue did certificates of appreciation in the past.

Fred wondered if we should be presenting a budget to the membership for approval in addition to the treasurer’s report. Keli thought it would be a great idea.

Fred moved to adjourn; Les seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanna Maas