

Virginia Alpaca Owners & Breeders Association
Monthly Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
September 13, 2010
via Teleconference

Attendance:

Sue Ives, President
Tonya Urban, President Elect
Pay Hamilton, Secretary
Russ Pond, Treasurer
Hank Boyd, Director at Large
Donna Higgason, Director at Large
Marian Holmes, Director

Meeting Called to Order - 7:32 pm

First Order of Business: Bylaws Review – Complete bylaws were reviewed and discussed.

- Section 3.3 – what constitutes VA residency
- Section 4.1 – consider having more than one membership meeting per year
- Section 4.3 – notice of meetings – is email notice enough? postcards?
- Section 5.9 – maintain policy set by previous board to reach out to board members if two meetings are missed
- Section 6.3 – terms of directors – need to revisit treasurers term in particular
- Section 8.1 – Nominating Committee needed

Minutes: Approve August 2, 2010 minutes
Ratify email votes:

1. August 5-6, 2010 - Motion made by Sue Ives that funding necessary to the completion of website preparation for the purpose of setting up the show registration credit card capability on www.vaoba.info be approved. Seconded by: Donna Higgason. All in favor; motion carried.
2. September 8-9, 2010 – Motion made by Sue Ives to appoint Patricia Hamilton of Virginia Breeze Alpacas to serve as Secretary for the remainder of the 2010-2011 Membership year. Seconded by: Russ Pond. All in favor; motion carried.

Treasurers Report: Balance as of September 10, 2010 is \$57,129.12

Taxes – Russ has determined that VAOBA has never filed taxes but they will need to be filed this year. He will look into this.

Motion made by Donna that we accept the Treasurers Report; seconded by Tonya. All in favor, motion carried.

Committee Reports: (immediately following agenda)

Education Committee: Joanie Pond & Pat Hamilton (attached)

- Pat indicated she would like to take on educating the state agencies with respect to neglect/abuse of camelids.
- Motion made by Hank that we accept the Education Report; Donna seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

Fiber Committee: B-J Ellis, Linda Polak, Pam Oakley Whiting (attached)

- After much discussion Sue motioned to approve the workshop on the proposed dates but that the Fiber Committee seek a less expensive venue and apply for an Education Grant to help defray expenses.

Russ – yes

Hank – yes

Sue – yes

Marian – no

Tonya – no

Donna – yes

Pat – yes

Motion carried 5 for; 2 against

{Note: the lack of time to properly advertise the event was the reason for dissent}

- Hank shared that VA Tech has a student entering the Student Design Competition. Discussion followed regarding VAOBA sponsoring the SDC and reviewed various levels of sponsorship possible. This will be carried over to the next meeting.
- Donna motioned we accept the Fiber Committee Report; Tonya seconded. All in favor; motion carried

Government & Industry Relations Committee: John Ferrante - No Report

Marketing Committee: Tonya Urban

- Discussion regarding the marketing needs of VAOBA; VAOBA as an association, the show, helping committees market events are areas where marketing is needed.

Membership Committee: Hank Boyd

- 2 new members – Tonya will call Hank to discuss some ideas.

Newsletter Editors: Ed & Joanie Kinser – No report this month.

Show Committee: Judy Howe – No formal report

- Judy relays there are only 2 rooms booked at the Days Inn from the block we have.
- Marian said there was a June deadline on Vendor applications stated in the packets that went out to 62 potential vendors. Date has been changed on line and Brenda is making follow-up calls.
- Registration is very low at present; Level II numbers.

New Business:

- 2011 VAOBA Expo Venue – Sue presented a rough budget and possible layout for a move to the State Fair facility. Discussion tabled so that Tonya could look into the Roanoke Civic Center; Virginia Beach Convention Center and the Showplace. This will be revisited before the next meeting.
- Tonya will list the show on the AN calendar
- Tonya will ask her mother to create a Face Book page for VAOBA.
- Schedule more membership meetings? Tabled.

Next Meeting Date: October 4th, 2010 7:30 pm

Adjournment: Donna motioned to adjourn; Sue seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted by Pat Hamilton, Secretary

Survey Results & Action

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| Hay & Nutrition | - | 3 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 5 | Pat has contacted Dr. Steve Hull about this seminar and is waiting for costs associated with this seminar. We need to narrow down the dates for him. I have also contacted our local hay testing lab for info and forms. |
| Showing Alpacas | - | 5 | 4 | 6 | - | 6 | 1 | 3 | 6 | Have been researching this seminar - if we are going to use a judge it is going to be tough because of the spring show season. |
| The Mill | - | 4 | 5 | 2 | - | 1 | 5 | 6 | 2 | Pat has contacted several mills concerning seminars and am waiting for responses. Again we need to narrow down our spring dates for the seminar weekend. |
| Fiber Analysis Project | - | 6 | 1 | 5 | - | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | |
| Neonatal Workshop | - | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 4 | 3 | |
| Parasitology Workshop | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 4 | |

I thought the Hay & Feed seminar was definitely the number 2 choice. Number one is all over the place but Neonatal does have 3 hits.

Here are the suggestions we received for other seminars:

- 1-Social media marketing - (ex. Facebook)
- 2-Marketing on a tight budget
- 3-How to get new people involved in alpacas
- 4-Co-op Farming
- 5-Genetics

Could we include the survey in the VAOBA Expo materials?

Seminars and Workshops in process:

Neonatal Clinic
 Dr. Karen Baum
 Target date: November 2010
 Status:

- Karen is reviewing questions sent to her regarding:
- available dates
 - existing agenda to review
 - # of attendees can accommodate
 - utilize her contact list to help drive attendance (use as a membership drive opportunity)
 - her fee
 - scope of equipment in her clinic
 - any additional comments or suggestions

Suggested Venue and Timeframe for additional seminars:

Sue, Pat and Joanie discussed building a multi-level educational event for the Spring timeframe to be held at the new State Fair Grounds. All agreed that would be an efficient and effective method for delivering a more powerful, concentrated educational series to the membership so Pat and Joanie agreed to move forward with developing a plan to include

- agenda
- costs
- schedule (checking with surrounding state shows to avoid conflict)
- local hotels, pricing with room blocks

Sue provided the education committee with the VAOBA website link area of CAMELID COMMUNITY. Pat and Joanie will begin to submit articles and relevant web links to Sue, requesting approval to be sent to the webmaster for posting.

Fiber Committee Report - Sept 13, 2010

1. VA Finest Status: Our amended submission is ready to move on to the Review Board; we sit and wait. Linda, as the contact person, has been asking for an update on its progress.

2. Another article was published in the VAOBA newsletter, including a call for additional committee members.

3. Fashion Design and Textile Design AOA Competitions: We have made initial contacts with some of the major universities in VA; we will continue to look for school faculty contacts through art departments and theater (costume design faculty). Since this year's entry time is Nov. 15, new schools can begin preparation for next year's competition.

4. A new member to VAOBA joins Fiber COM: We welcome Lisa Darley of Maranatha Alpaca Farm.

5. Fashion show and auction VAOBA, Oct. 2010: We have two of three "super-items" in hand for the auction. We will have models, and PowerPoint information, voice-over commentary with suitable music.

6. PLANNING FOR Fair Days at the State Fairgrounds, high exposure: will include demos and a fashion show. Linda Polak and Teri Phipps have been meeting with Fair organizers to get visibility for alpacas. We hope to have a permanent fiber display in the Green Building on the Fairgrounds; this too will take some work planning.

7. Sorting and Grading Workshop kick-off: We can have Wini Labrecque for Nov. 6th at the Richmond Fairgrounds if we get the hold-fee to her. Seating limited to 24-30 "is ideal". She has handled 45 but does not feel effective at that number. Food will be a potluck lunch; can VAOBA supply water and soft drinks? We are exploring the idea of a "local farm" to host Wini overnight before she takes the 6-7-hr trip back home. Can VAOBA provide a food stipend for the host farm? [Note: Best Western – one night is \$56.94 / has 24 hour Denny's]

Wini Labrecque, Star Weaver Farm OR SWF Fiber Innovations, 112 Old Pike Lane, Cabot, PA 16023 Phone: 724-272-4285

8. Budget request for Sorting and Grading Fiber initial Workshop with Wini Labrecque:

Participants Fees: VAOBA members FREE (2/farm member)

Non-members \$35.00/person or \$50.00/person (we ask the Board to recommend)

Wini to hold a date: Sat., Nov. 6\$100.00

Instruction by Wini: 6-Hr. seminar and hands-on workshops.....\$400.00

Travel expenses for Wini \$0.65 per mile

From her farm to the Fairgrounds on Goggle is

328-361miles with 3 tolls along the shorter route.

\$213.20 (plus 3 tolls)-\$234.00 one-way total round-trip\$426.40 (plus 6 tolls) = \$467.00

Work-Room at Fairground est. \$600.00

Thank you.

B-J Ellis, Chair, Fiber Committee