

VAOBA Board Meeting
September 12, 2011

Joe Kyger
Pat Hamilton
Nancy Ogan
Donna Higgason
Al Dillon
John Hanna

Meeting called to order at 7:10 p.m.

MINUTES:

Donna makes a motion to accept the minutes of the August Board meeting – Nancy seconds – all in favor.

TREASURERS REPORT:

Al Dillon makes a motion to accept the Treasurers report – Donna seconds – all in favor.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE:

Pat tells the Board that the Fiber Committee has asked the Education Committee to take over the SDC. Nancy will call Lisa Darley about the Student Design Competition. Nancy makes a motion to accept the Education Committee report – Donna seconds – all in favor

FIBER COMMITTEE:

Nancy will talk with Pam Whiting about the Fiber Committee and judging at the VAOBA Expo. Donna makes a motion to accept the Fiber Committee report – Nancy seconds – all in favor

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Donna – we had 5 farms join at the Breeders Edge Auction – we gave a raffle ticket to each new member that signed up and we had a drawing at the end of the day. The breeding was generously donated by Ernie and Barbara Kellogg of Double O Good Alpaca Farm.

Hanks report shows that 8 members either renewed or joined as new members during the month via the website.

Al Dillon wants to make sure he can add his vet to the membership without incurring any costs. Pat tells everyone that according to Sue the vets were given a free associate membership to VAOBA.

Nancy and Joe did not get lists of members to call about renewing.

Nancy makes a motion to accept the Membership Committee report – Donna seconds – all in favor.

NEWSLETTER:

Donna – The newsletter is ready to go to the printer – all we need is the Presidents message. Nancy will get with Donna later to finish this.

Joe Kyger makes a motion to accept the Urgent meeting minutes – Nancy seconds – all in favor.

Al Dillon wants to ask Joe about possible charges in the future on Open Herd.

Round Table Discussion is tabled until Russ and John can be on the call.

Donna had a good idea about communicating with the membership – a message should go out every week. The next email we need to tell the membership that we need them to read the emails.

We need to provide the membership with information about the Marketplace -

If we send out an email – can we fix it so they can click on it and share their ideas with us.

OPEN HERD PRESENTATION:

Joe Preston joins the call at 7:32 p.m.

Donna asks Joe how long the program has been in place – Joe says March 2011. Donna asks if they offered it before Alpaca Nation – Joe says approximately the same time as Alpaca Nation. The New Mexico folks wanted the program so they put it in place.

Openherd.com – go to resources – go to Affiliates Program - type in presentation.

Joe talks about making it easier for farms to enter their info.

Al Dillon asked Joe Preston how he makes his money – Joe mentions auctions. He says they didn't feel good about charging for putting up a sales list.

Nancy – what you are saying is that everyone will have a free account – they will be seen on VAOBA as well as Open Herd also?

The complete package is an editable website. It takes it a lot further than the free site.

AN Sync is free now – but Open Herd offered it free from the beginning.

Nancy – on Open Herd there is a link you can click and make a sales list – is that free? No -

They will enter your animals for \$2 each.

Donna asks if OH can do auctions for Virginia members only – approximately \$4500 – includes advertising and the actual auction – no entry fees – no commissions. Could we use them to auction for an annual event. The upper limit is approximately 50 animals.

Nancy thanks Joe Preston for his participation.

Nancy asks for input from the members of the Board.

John asks if we are going to consider Alpaca Street.

Donna gives statistics again and Alpaca Street has the least amount of members.

The biggest difference is if you don't pay for membership on Alpaca Nation you will not be seen.

Open herd is free -

Nancy will put together pros and cons to present to the Board tomorrow. Nancy is passionate about getting this out to the membership and getting it off the table. Nancy will spend the entire day tomorrow preparing the information so that we can develop a communication to go out to our membership.

Joe Kyger thinks we need to use snail mail to make certain that each person gets the information. John thinks doing it both ways makes good sense. John thinks we need to provide information on why we dropped Alpaca Nation. John thinks we should say why Alpaca Street is not in the top 2. Nancy says she will quote statistics in order to justify her report. Nancy thinks as a small breeder she feels Open Herd is the best bargain.

Donna will call Alpaca Street and see what his website offers. Nancy wants Donna to see if Alpaca Street will provide a list of his benefits.

Nancy does not have a preference – she will go with whatever the membership decides.

Will someone work on an introductory letter - Joe will work up an intro letter.

Nancy brings up the neonatal seminar – Patty is working on it.

Nancy makes a motion that Patty work on a neonatal seminar – Donna seconds – all in favor.

Donna brings up pro rating membership fees to folks attending the neonatal seminar since it will probably be in February.

Joe says you shouldn't prorate if they have ever been a member. Only proration for new members not renewing.

New first time members will have rates prorated – should be on the website -

If you were ever a member of VAOBA you cannot be prorated.

Nancy asks if Al Dillon has any thoughts - Al Dillon - thinks it is right on.

Joe got an email from one member volunteering to serve on the membership committee. Nancy calls for a vote to add Fred Obenchain to the membership committee – all in favor.

Nancy is going through the minutes to try and find out about the nonprofit status.

John Hanna believes that we need the reports earlier. Nancy will call the committees and ask that the reports get in earlier.

Joe Kyger will take care of the membership committee.

John Hanna says we need the reports earlier.

Joe asks for a membership list.

Nancy makes a motion that we adjourn – Donna seconds 8:55 p.m. - all in favor.

The next meeting will be October 3, 2011 at 7p.m.

Minutes **Education Committee Report**

Date: **Sept 12, 2011**

Committee: **Education**

Members in Attendance:

Report Submitted by: Pat Hamilton

Topic	Discussion	Action
Meeting Called to Order –		
Approve Minutes:		
Agenda Items:		
Item #1	Patty Fuller has lined up Dr Katie Wilson to teach a camelid skin disorder seminar at the VAOBA Expo.	
Item #2	The Fiber Committee has asked that the Education Committee take over the SDC.	
Item #3		
Item #4		
Old Business:		
New Business:		
Next Meeting Date:	TBD	
Adjournment:		

Fiber Committee Report, AUGUST 2011

Members on Committee: Linda Polak, Lisa Darley, B-J Ellis, Pam Whiting, Robin and George Ayers.....Patty Fuller has been on our calls because she is doing the layout and printing of the yarn label.

Three telephone conferences were conducted to keep up with needed actions.

Before the first conference of the month, everyone was supplied with a list of all the information that should appear somewhere on the label.

First conference: Present: all above, absent: B-J Ellis

Second conference; Present: all above, absent: Pam Whiting

Third Conference; Present: all above plus Kandy Lovelidge and potential committee member Sue Haught (They approached Lisa Darley to be on the fiber committee, so Lisa suggested they get on the call to see if they really want to join)

Absent were Linda Polak, Robyn Ayers and George Ayers

Financial affairs: Final payment of yarn processing at Morning Star Fiber Mill was paid by check sent to Morning Star by Russ Pond, VAOBA Treasurer

Actions approved

1. Name of "Virginia Premier" for Yarn - unanimous
2. Removal of knitting needles from Patty's draft of label; additions of gauges, addition of international "spool" #3 indicating DK weight
3. Purchase plastic-coated tyvek paper for 384 skeins, and purchase of black and color ink cartridges for Patty ink jet to print at Patty Fuller's home printer
4. Location and inventory of wire grids for yarn display or general use at Farm Show (& number of connectors needed be ordered.- B-J Ellis
5. Manning the VAOBA Yarn booth at Farm Day in Richmond Fair grounds; All Contributors first, then Group #1 Workshop in Richmond area..... Lisa Darley & B-J Ellis
6. Yarn picked-up from Morning Star Fiber Mill, Apple Creek, Ohio, inspected, and brought back to Lisa Darley. Fred Obenchain & B-J
7. Before the state fair, committee members who can come to Lisa Darley's farm will band up the skeins of yarn for sale.

Actions defeated: 1. Use of Alpacas United logo on label – majority

Tabled actions:

1. Final graphics for Yarn logo; "suggested uses" printed on label;
2. Background color for label
3. Marketing and art-work for Fiber Arts in Expo Show

New Business: We would like to add Kandy Lovelidge of Kandy Coated Alpacas and Sue Haught of Hungry Run Alpacas to our committee.

Sept. 13, 2011 VAOBA Treasurer's Report

Current Accounts

Wachovia Non-profit Checking Show Account *4532

Description	Amount
Beginning Balance (8/01/11)	\$13,247.34
Deposit/Transfer:	2,671.00
Credit Card Charges:	
Checks Cleared:	
Bank Commercial Charges: Checks for Main Account	-
Closing Balance (8/31/2011)	\$15,918.34
Outstanding Card Charges:	
Outsanding Checks (Bang Music for Show Speaker System)	\$ (50.00)
Ending Adjusted Show Account Balance (8/31/11)	<u>\$15,868.34</u>

Wachovia Non-profit Checking Primary Account *8660

Description	Amount
Beginning Balance (8/6/2011)	\$32,193.34
Deposits:	\$ 15,335.00
Total Deposits	\$ 15,335.00
Deposit items Adjustment	

Debits

Bank Fees	(\$232.60)
Checks: Morningstar Fiber (Yarn Project)	\$ (1,423.44)
Direct Withdrawal At Conference	\$ (75.51)
Constant Contact	\$ (35.00)
Wire Transfers	\$ -
Other Charges	\$ -

Total Debits (\$1,766.55)

Ending Balance for Main Account (8/31/11) \$45,761.79
Combined Balance for Main and Show Accounts (8/31/11) \$61,630.13

Pending Payments

Show related expenses TBD

Deposits after Aug. 31, 2011 Back Country \$100.00

Withdrawals after Aug. 31, 2011 Patty Fuller \$ (1,000.00)
Expenses/Herdsire \$ (429.95)

***COMBINED ACCOUNT BALANCES (Adjusted) 09/11/2011 \$60,300.18**

Receivables: \$ -

Total Receivables \$ -

Russ Pond, Treasurer