



Maryland Alpaca Breeders Association
Board of Directors Meeting February 3, 2007

Members Present:

Jess Armstrong, Barry Clark, Chuck Gulotta, Dave Nye, Richard Keyser.

On open phone line: Andy Bauer

On standby phone: John Petersam

President opened meeting:

General Administration: John Petersam requested to be moved from Secretary to a Board Member at Large. The President indicated that Andy Bauer and Dave Nye would be willing to accept the position. After a small discussion, it was agreed that Dave Nye would become the Secretary. As a consequence, the board structure is now as follows:

President: Jess Armstrong

Vice President: Barry Clark

Secretary: Dave Nye

Treasurer: Chuck Gulotta

Members at Large: John Petersam – Richard Keyser – Andy Bauer

Treasurer Report: (informal)

Chuck gave an informal report as to the status of the treasury: The current balance is approx: \$3,200. There are several outstanding bills to pay (taxes and insurance) and payments to receive, which would bring the balance down to approx. \$2,500. With the membership drive in progress, it is anticipated that this balance would rise.

The treasury report prompted a discussion on how we might bolster this balance so that member services could be enhanced and/or enlarged.

Some ideas were:

- Provide seminars on topics helpful to the members and others in the alpaca industry. These would require a fee to attend, with the intention of making a little money for the treasury, without making the attendance fee non-competitive. Some presenters were discussed, such as: Eric Hoffman, Norm Evans, Teri Cotton, Neil Padgett and Ingrid Woods. Topics would be discussed at a later date. Jess would talk with Neil Padgett for starters and we will discuss this in more detail at the next meeting.

- Another idea was to have a Marty McGee clinic, with her Eastern representative. Dave will get the details on cost and possible farm for this event for the discussion next meeting.
- Have a MABA booth at events such as the State Fair and other alpaca shows, not only for advertisement, but have members donate products, such as yarn, fleece, roving, felt and such for sale. The sales would be taken into the treasury.

Maryland State Fair

- Jess to contact Tilly Dorsey and determine if the offer and space for the Fair are still open.
- Tilly said she would Co-Chair the event, but not do it herself. So, we will need a Co-Chair. Maybe the Co-Chair could come out of the members that expressed interest at the meeting, (John Petersam, Heinz Wilms, Richard Keyser, or Dave Nye) or, a selection can come from conversation between Jess and Tilly.
- The nature of the show was discussed. We could have a regular show with halter, obstacle, and fleece events. Some fun events as in the Frederick show (Richard Keyser) or whatever. Since it would not be AOBA sanctioned, at least the first year, format could be anything we wanted.
- Another suggestion was to make sure we have a MABA booth there for information and contact for the non-alpaca fair attendees.

All details to be discussed at the next meeting, given we have a go from the fair and a Co-Chair for Tilly.

General Membership Meetings

Dave recommended we put out a printed communication to all members stating the dates of the General Membership Meeting for the full year. While these dates are available on the MABA web site, a member must be pro-active in finding them. The printed schedule would help them arrange their calendars. Barry Clark will contact Gail Campbell to see if we can use her facility for the quarterly members meeting.

Sheep and Wool Festival

Dave raised the question - Why don't we have a presence at the Sheep and Wool Festival? Experienced members related that we received a very cool reception from the festival organizers in the past. Dave said he would at least make a new attempt as soon as possible.

Wine Fest – Carroll County

Chuck will check the availability and if a positive response is received, we will begin planning at the next meeting.

Fiber

Chuck related that Al Beatty, in conjunction with MAPACA, is working on a possible fleece show in Gettysburg this summer. Dave agreed to call Mr. Beatty and determine if there are any synergies to be had between MAPACA and MABA. To be reported on in the next meeting.

BOD Meeting

The next BOD meeting is set for 2/24/2007 somewhere in the BWI area. Barry will investigate and inform the BOD where and the time.

Meeting was adjourned!!!

