



Board of Directors Meeting 4/12/2007

Attendees:

Jess Armstrong – Barry Clark – Chuck Gulotta – Dave Nye – John Petersam
Rich Keyser – Chris Armstrong – Tilly Dorsey – Stephanie Morrison

General Administration:

President called meeting to order.

Motion by John Petersam to accept the BOD meeting minutes from 3/11/2007 and seconded by Barry Clark.

Chuck Gulotta reported that the balance in the treasury stands at \$3,200. He also mentioned that the paid membership stands at 63, the highest in association history.

Alpaca Show Efforts

Prior to the commencement of this meeting, we were given a tour of the Carroll County Ag Center by Larry Collins, for consideration as a show venue. Some, but not all, of the particulars are:

- Main Bldg = 52,500 square feet
- Renter responsible for cleaning building after event
- Sound system concerns
- Set up/take down responsibility of renter
- Need electric cords to reach overhead electric bars
- Kitchen – caterer must be on approved Ag Center list
- Ample parking
- Cost = \$3,250 per event day. (Friday set up questionable)
- Security with local police can be arranged
- Rabbit Barn available for rental price of \$500/day

Group discussion then centered around comparing the Ag Center with Timonium Fair grounds, whose cost is \$2,000 per day for the building, with all other services extra. Jess Armstrong met with fair grounds officials and they would love to have a MABA show. However, the fair grounds schedule was pretty full and did not allow many options for dates to book. Other venues were discussed and dismissed for the following reasons: Ocean City; too small – Upper Marlboro, no hotel accommodations – University of Maryland, no appropriate facility – Tents, too expensive and troublesome.

It was generally agreed that the Ag Center would serve as the best venue, at least for the first MABA show, and that we should proceed with organizational efforts. The Ag Center requires 1/3 down at booking time. Sponsors would be asked for up front donations to accommodate that requirement. If that became an issue, the treasury has enough to cover the cost. Other issues were discussed for follow up, such as, Superintendent and Judges Fees, cost of panels and set-up/take down, RV hook-up availability, possible dates for the show relating to Ag Center availability, etc.

A motion was made by John Petersam, seconded by Barry Clark to proceed with show efforts and form a show committee.

Maryland State Fair

Tilly Dorsey and Dave Nye will meet with fair officials next week. Subsequent to that meeting, a committee will be formed and efforts should get underway.

Web Site

Web site is primarily on auto-pilot now. The wish list for the future is as follows:

- Automatically optimize photos
- Members see expire date
- Auto confirmation – email on changes
- Vendor List
- Spell check and capitalization
- Members manage calendar listing
- Auto Password retrieval

A motion was made by John Petersam to get quotes on the list so we can make some judgment on prioritizing based on costs, seconded by Barry Clark.

MABA Booth

It was discussed that there will be upcoming need for a MABA display booth. While there are some remnants of a prior booth, it was deemed necessary for Richard Keyser to look into booth supplies on eBay or other sources.

Alpaca Farm Day

All agreed that we should place efforts into the AOBA suggestion on having an Alpaca Farm Day. John Petersam already drafted a notice that went out to all MABA members. John as agreed to head this effort and will attempt to get it organized for September 29th target date.

MABA Picnic

Chris Armstrong notified that she has placed a deposit on the Rocky Gap picnic area and that in order for her to get a return on that deposit, we would have to do so by May 20th. There is a lot of support for having the picnic at a member farm. Consequently, it was decided to send out an email to all MABA members to see if anyone would like to host the picnic. This is to be done by the secretary.

Fleece Efforts

It was noted that MAPACA appears to be going ahead with some form of fleece show in the Gettysburg area. Details of this effort will be researched by Chuck and brought back to the next meeting. MABA does not appear to be ready for any effort this year, so maybe some help with the MAPACA show would be appropriate. More to follow.

Meeting Adjourned.