



Maryland Alpaca Breeders Association

General Membership Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2005

I. Call to order

Lou Rimbach called to order the General Membership meeting of the Maryland Alpaca Breeders Association at 2:15 PM on January 9, 2005 at the Howard County Public Library in Cooksville, Maryland.

II. Roll call

The following members were in attendance:

- Barb & Lou Rimbach
- Rick & Kathy Stompf
- Jeffrey Charikofsky
- Chris & Jeff Armstrong
- Patti Anderson
- LuAnn Lumsden
- Wayne Aldrich
- Sue Ann & Heinz Wilms
- Nicky Roth & Chris Neuman
- Cathy Drennan
- Ken & Lois Pocock
- Helen Lewis
- Sally Murray
- Scott & Betsy Gove
- Valerie Perrin
- Chuck Gulotta
- Andy Schneider
- Toni & Steve Quigley

III. New business

- Lou Rimbach introduced the new Board of Directors for 2005. They are:
 - Patti Anderson – President
 - LuAnn Lumsden – Vice President
 - Jeffrey Charikofsky - Secretary
 - Wayne Aldrich – Treasurer
 - Jess Armstrong – Member at large
 - Rick Stumpf – Member at large
 - Glenn Cook – Member at large
 - Lou Rimbach – Past President
- Patti Anderson thanked the outgoing Board of Directors

- A request was made that all new business is submitted to the Board a least one week prior to the next meeting to allow for time to research.
- Wayne Aldrich reviewed current financial status and bank balances. The only outstanding/expected payments are general liability insurance and any website maintenance fees.

Motion made by Heinz Wilms to accept financial report; seconded by Scott Gove. Motion passed unanimously.

- Patti Anderson reviewed the current mission statement and goals for 2005
 - Reviewed the role of the marketing committee. Jess Armstrong will act as the BOD liaison to the committee.
 - Goal to increase membership levels of Maryland Farms. Chuck Gulotta volunteered to chair the Membership Committee.
 - Education committee liaison will be Wayne Aldrich. Valerie Perrin and Scott Gove volunteered to be co-chairpersons.
- Chris Armstrong reviewed the MABA website
 - Cathy Drennan and Steve Quiqley volunteered to be on the marketing committee.
 - The need to focus on vendor listings as reviewed.
 - \$36/year includes link to vendor's site or email. If the vendor agrees to link back to MABA, the second year is free.
 - Patti Anderson announced new member benefit. For every two listings a MABA member sells, the member will receive a free listing on the MABA website.
 - Wholesale alpaca clothing vendors will not be listed due to local competition.
 - The web committee recommended reciprocal links with AlpacaNation, AlpcaSeller and AlpacaNet. Currently reciprocal links are in place for AOBA, MAPACA and other non-profits.
 - The possibility of creating a fee-based, or free, mailing list was discussed for future review.
 - Additional photographs for the website were requested.
- Jess Armstrong discussed search for new MABA show booth.
 - Current task is to research potential costs to establish a budget.
- Scott Gove and Valerie Perrin discussed educational ideas
 - Alpacas 101 – work though MAPACA to purchase mailing lists
 - Valerie is working on a potential neonatal clinic to be held locally.
 - Future Harvest to be held next weekend in Hagerstown. Focus is on sustainable agriculture and organic farming.
 - The Pet Expo will be at Timonium Fairgrounds 1/29 – 1/30.
- Questions were raised on how to get future events on the website?
- A discussion on the creation of a Program Committee occurred. The BOD will discuss at their next meeting.

- Future membership meeting dates are posted on the MABA website (<http://www.marylandalpacas.org>). The current dates are:
 - March 13, 2005
 - July 10, 2005
 - November 13, 2005
 - January 8, 2006

- A meeting with representatives of the Great Frederick Fair will occur next week to discuss this year's alpaca show.
- A reminder to members that 2005 dues are due before 1/31/2005 or their farm listing will be removed from the website.
 - Any farms joining in the last quarter of the year will be provided with a total of five (5) quarters of listings.

IV. Adjournment

Patti Anderson adjourned the meeting at **3:21 PM**.

Minutes submitted by: Jeffrey G. Charikofsky, Secretary, Maryland Alpaca Breeders Association

Minutes approved by: MABA Board of Directors, 2/23/2005