

# MABA Alpaca Celebration Show Committee Meeting 7.20.08

Meeting came to order at 1:15 pm at Middle Eight Alpacas.

Present: Andy Schneider, Dave Nye, Jess & Chris Armstrong, Al & Catherine Beatty, Stephanie Morrison, Teece Nowell, Tilly Dorsey, Gail Campbell, Barry & Mary Clark.

Jess Armstrong opened the meeting with a request for a motion that we use the beta version of AOBa's on line registration. Mary motioned to accept, Andy seconded, all were in favor. There was some brief discussion about the possible need to bring Cathy Oyster to Maryland for a training session. Al suggested we approach AOBA about covering that expense, if it arises. **Jess will contact Betty Brock.** Cathy Oyster will now handle the receipt of paperwork, checks and reports on exhibitor status.

A copy of the letter form Cathy Oyster was circulated to the committee via email regarding the registration process, it is attached to these minutes.

The show floor plan was discussed again and finalized. **Andy will take the approved plan and move forward** with implementing it. The committee agreed to eliminate 8 pens in order to allow more perimeter around the show rings. The interior measurements of the rings was expanded to 45' & 65' and we have a total of 228 stalls. Al motioned to accept the revised floor plan, Andy seconded, all were in favor and expressed a desire to move on.

Status reports ~

**Budget:** Dave reviewed the current budget and noted that without the fleece show out potential profit was 30% higher. There was discussion about the need to incur the expense the first year out with a "Show Solutions" AV support. There was some general discussion. Al motioned to eliminate the service this year. Gail seconded the motion, most were in favor of dropping the service and the motion passed. **Jess will contact Show Solutions.**

The question of the need for the Rabbit Barn was discussed and Jess pointed out it could be used for vet check or quarantine. Andy motioned that we drop the reservation and find another way to deal with isolation if needed. Stephanie seconded, most were in favor and the motion passed.

Al mentioned that MAPACA may have some grant money to offer MABA, **Jess will contact Chuck Gullotta** about the possibilities.

**Vet Check:** Stephanie has agreed to manage the Health Check process. She has contacted Dr. Sarah Link to obtain a quote for being present the day of check in

and on call the rest of the weekend. **Stephanie will continue work on getting a vet lined up for the three days.** There has been no confirmation of her availability. Stephanie led a discussion about on trailer health check and motioned we mandate on trailer health check of all incoming animals. Mary & Teece seconded the motion and all were in favor. There was also discussion about the practice of micro chipping animals by the vet check team and it was determined we will not allow it to be done.

**Marketing:** Barry & Mary attended Common Ground on the Hill at the Carroll County Farm Museum the previous weekend and told people about the upcoming show. The next possible insertion for the MAPACA newsletter will not be until October and it will be too late to make an insertion. In the meantime **Barry will contact Steve Quigley about updating the flyer and verify the next Alpacas Magazine ad deadline.** Barry will also look into the AOBA email blast and prepare to send out three blasts strategically timed with our registration dates. **He will also be sure the Alpaca Nation event listing is updated as things progress.** Jess reported that the Ag Center billboard may be available and when more info is available he will pass it on to Barry. Stephanie offered to maintain an informal email list of folks requesting information, a show info link will be added on the website which will feed to Teece, Stephanie, Jess & Andy.

**Web Site:** Chris reported that the web module would go live as early as mid week. An overview of pages was given and Mary suggested a FAQ page be added as well as an emergency contact person. According to Jeff Charikofsky, we should be able to take registrations in a few weeks. All the necessary forms have been submitted to Jeff, Steve and Betty Brock in order to have all parties on the same page and reduce delays in a live site for the show. It was also requested that we be sure all info about the check in process that appears on the website include a disclaimer about no micro chipping during vet check. **Chris will review website progress,** interface with Jeff & Steve and work to get the registration and all other web related info posted on line as soon as possible.

**Seminars:** Mary presented some ideas for seminars, including pre beginners, 101 and advanced topics. The committee discussed the practicality of having advanced seminars and the general consensus was to avoid the advanced topics for the first time out. **Mary will provide an outline of her plans for posting on the website and begin working on the seminar schedule.**

#### **Hotels & Restaurants:**

Catherine reported on the blocks of rooms she has reserved at two local hotels: the Days Inn and the Best Western. She has negotiated a reduced rate and those who take advantage of the deal need to mention the show. Upon review of the numbers, some committee members felt larger blocks of rooms were needed. Catherine will make the necessary calls to reserve more rooms in the local places. There were also two B&B's mentioned as well as Owings Mills and Gettysburg for more upscale options. **Catherine will provide the info for posting**

on the website and look into the places mentioned.

Mary & Stephanie will provide information on the local restaurants for posting on the website.

**Misc:**

Al mentioned that more farms are needed for the herdsire blanket. He is planning to ask for photos from the farms that participate, the consensus was the farms could show 5 X 7 shots of their herdsire but it would not necessarily be the same animal that donated fleece for the blanket.

Jess announced that Ashley Hanahan has volunteered to do the Volunteer Coordination. She was unanimously accepted and will be brought into the email loop immediately.

Chris will check with the photographer to verify if his price includes 1st and 2nd place winners and if he would reduce his rate if he didn't have to do both.

The to do list was handed out and everyone was asked to look it over and take on a project or two.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45  
Minutes submitted by Chris Armstrong