Fiber & Fiber Products Committee Minutes
3 Jun 2019 – Conference Call 7pm EDT

Committee Members:

B-J Ellis
Elizabeth Taylor
Stacie Chavez
Karen Ball
Margie Ault, AOA Staff Liaison
Charlene Schmid
Denise Coonley
Wini Labrecque
Norm Johnson
Ruth Fuqua
Angela Nosal, AOA Event Coordinator
Clarissa Wisner

Absent: Karen; Clarissa;

Approve Minutes of MAY 2019 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 2019 minutes was made by Stacie and seconded by Ruth.

AOA Member MarketPlace

Denise provided an update. We have 1 member signed up as of this meeting. We will look to expand communication. As members, we need to promote through our social media channels. If we are planning to participate, we need to let Denise know of our intentions.

Why Alpaca Poster?

Clarissa had provided an updated version of the proposed poster. It was mentioned that there was some email discussion regarding redundant boxes; we need to go back to the emails and resolve this discussion. Everyone felt we were very close to sending this material to print so we can hand out at NFE and make it available on-line for members to download.

Fiber Testing

Bud and Norm are still working to find funding to support the execution of the tests. Will discuss futher the week of 10 Jun 2019; It was suggested that we possibly consider a 50/50 raffle to help raise funds from members? Maybe silent auction items directed to fiber testing; maybe a gofundme effort (editor comment as I was typing the minutes).

Natural Fiber Extravaganza;

2019

- New Key Note speaker has been secured.
- Class Registrations are going well. Still room for attendees; While we are seeing registrations for classes, we are not seeing the volume of registration for the weekend.
- Focusing on finishing lecture sessions and getting all of the information updated on the website.
- Advertising the workshops through the instuctors

- Securing Vendors.
- Planning a fashion show and some contests
- 3 Yoga with alpaca sessions planned
- Alpaca Selfie booth.
- Still seeking participation in the Fiber Arts and Skeins competition. The cost of entry is still a concern. The cost breakdown has been presented, but the cost is still a concern when compared to other prominent fiber festival fiber arts competitions. Given that NFE is Natural Fiber, there may be a need to examine the rules (e.g. what percentage of alpaca is required). Changes may bring fiber artists that use other natural fibers to submit items for evaluation.
- The importance of up to date information on the Website and the ability to find it easily was stressed multiple times.

Student Design

- 6 of the 8 finalists are planning to attend.

Natural Fiber Display;

- Wini provided an update. She is working with Karen to help move this effort forward. Elizabeth has provided sample fibers; Wini will be spinning them and Elizabeth will knit them with her knitting machines. This is an important endeavor. Wini, Elizabeth and Karen; your valuable time and commitment to this effort is greatly appreciated.

Board Update:

- Karen was absent so no board update.

Fiber as a Business;

- Norm had provided a draft regarding potential areas of cost; Charlene had provided some improvement opportunities to consider.
- Charlene had provided some feedback on different areas of the original document for consideration as well.
- Everyone is encouraged to provide feedback as new versions of this work is sent out to everyone.

Meeting Closure

Adjourned 7:40 pm EST. Motion to adjourn by Stacie; 2nd by B-J;

Next meeting to be held by conference call **on 1 Jul 2019**. 7PM EDST; 6pm CDST; 5pm MDST; 4pm PDST;