Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2016

Meeting: Special Meeting — Business/Operations, April 25, 2016, 6:00 p.m. EDT

Board of Directors: Bonnie Potter, President
Scott Miller, Vice President
Laurel Shouvlin, Secretary
Mike Vigus, Treasurer
Julie Delaney, Director
Don Greene, Director
Steve Hull, Director
Norm Johnson, Director
Andy Merriwether, Director

Executive Director: Darby Vannier

AOA Counsel: Sheri Visani

Delaney was late to the call due to shearing.

1.0 Meeting Opening: Meeting opened at 6:05 p.m. EDT.

1.1 Ratify Email Votes:

1.1.1 I move we approve the March 14th minutes. (Motion: Merriwether / Second: Vigus) Motion passed 8–0–1 (Abstain: Miller).

1.1.2 I move we approve the March 28th minutes. (Motion: Johnson / Second: Vigus) Motion passed 9–0.

1.1.3 I move we approve the President's Message for *Alpacas Magazine*. (Motion: Merriwether / Second: Shouvlin) Motion passed 9–0.

1.1.4 I move we approve the next "From the Board" update as presented by Greene. (Motion: Johnson / Second: Hull) Motion passed 9–0.

1.1.5 I move that we send the Suri Network eblast concerning updates to the Suri Breed Standard. (Motion: Johnson / Second Vigus) Motion passed 9–0.

Motion to ratify the email votes was made by Merriwether, seconded by Hull and passed (8–0, Delaney absent).

Delaney joined the meeting at 6:10 p.m. EDT.

2.0 Financial Report:

2.1 Financials: Vannier and Vigus reviewed the financials with the Board for the year-to-date. Expenses are on Budget and the National Halter show income has been greater than budgeted putting income over budget for the year-to-date.

2.2 Investment Review: Vannier reviewed the investment account with the Board. It was noted that there is a slight increase in the investment account as compared to this time last year.

3.0 Old Business:

3.1 ET/AI Bylaw Amendment Wording: Vannier presented the language developed by Vannier and AOA Attorney Sheri Visani for presentation to the membership for the upcoming election. Vannier mentioned that it might be desirable to add further language to this amendment such as limiting that recipient females must be alpacas, and limiting the admission of ET alpacas into the Registry to those born after 1/1/17. It was the consensus of the Board to add that language. Vannier and Visani will make the changes and present the amendment to the Board for a vote.

AOA Attorney Sheri Visani joined the call at 6:55 p.m. EDT.

4.0 New Business:

4.1 Member Issue—Executive Session: Shouvlin moved and Hull seconded that we move into executive session with Vannier and Attorney Visani present. The motion passed (9–0) and the Board went into executive session at 7:08 p.m. EDT. The motion to come out of executive session was made by Johnson, seconded by

Shouvlin, and passed (9–0). The Board left executive session at 8:32 p.m. EDT. The motion to write and send a letter from the President to a member and to conduct member education as discussed was made by Hull, seconded by Merriwether, and passed (8–0 Greene abstained).

4.2 New Fiber Committee Members: Several members submitted applications to serve on the AOA Fiber Committee. Johnson moved that Nancy Rogers and Clarissa Wisner be appointed to the Fiber Committee. Vigus seconded the motion which passed unanimously (9–0).

4.3 2017 Fleece Conference Location: Vannier and staff member Harrington have narrowed down the choices for the 2017 National Fleece Show to two locations, one in Sacramento and the other in Las Vegas. It was the consensus of the Board to focus on the Sacramento location due to the higher summer temperatures in Las Vegas, and to have a National Conference close to the west coast. The Board also reasoned that there would be greater member support for a show in the west in terms of both attendance and volunteers.

4.4 Business Conversion Discount: Over the years, the organization has been running into problems with "Personal" accounts where the alpaca registrations have both owners (ie husband and wife) listed, as opposed to Business or Farm accounts with only the business named. With a Personal account, if there is a death or a divorce, the certificates have to be mailed back to AOA for correction to remove the appropriate individual from the document. Vannier is proposing to the Board that AOA offer a "special" this summer, reducing the price to convert the Personal accounts to Business/Farm accounts. Currently the fees to convert are $50 to convert the account and $10 per alpaca to reprint the certificate. Vannier is recommending that during the "special" the $50 fee be waived and the per alpaca reprint fee be lowered from $10.00 to $3.00. Johnson moved to accept Vannier's proposal, Merriwether seconded, and the motion carried (9–0).

4.5 Youth Handbook: Shouvlin brought up the fact that the association has an old document called the "Youth Leaders Handbook—Alpaca Activities For Youth." She recommends that an ad hoc committee be created to revise and update the handbook. She would be happy to chair the committee. She suggested that the committee be populated by sending out an invitation to the membership as we do for other committees. Johnson moved that an ad hoc committee be created to update the handbook, Miller seconded, and motion passed (9–0).

4.6 ACOA eBlast: ACOA has requested that AOA send out 4 eblasts for them that advertise their fleece collection occurring this summer. Merriwether moved that AOA send 2 eblasts at no charge and that the other 2 eblasts be sent at a discount. Hull seconded and the motion passed (7–0, Greene and Vigus abstained because their farms are listed as collection points on the advertisement).

5.0 Committee & Other Reports:

5.1 Government and Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom): Potter has no report for she was unable to attend the recent meeting since she was in flight.

5.2 Judge Training and Certification Committee (JTCC): Miller reports that there has been no meeting.

5.3 Judges Advisory Committee (JAC): Delaney reports that there has been no meeting.

5.4 Show Rules Committee (SRC): Shouvlin reported that the committee met on April 7th. Sarah Donahoe and Ken Clark also attended the meeting to discuss their ideas for including youth halter classes at upcoming shows that they are involved with. Judge Amanda VandenBosch also attended to lend her perspective about the idea. No decisions were made on the additional classes. Several waivers were approved for the upcoming Suri Network Fleece show. There was a very brief review of the eastern dual show. The feeling was that it went fairly well, although the second show judges spent a fair amount of time waiting and that the show did not finish until 7:00 p.m. EDT.

5.5 Fiber and Fiber Products Committee: Johnson reported that the committee met on April 4th. It is still working on the upcoming National Fleece Conference. The Fiber as Business document is complete and off to staff for printing.

5.6 Alternative Products Committee: Miller reported that there has been no meeting. He intends to schedule a meeting for June.

5.7 Revenue Task Force: Greene and Miller report that there has been no meeting but one is scheduled for early May.

5.8 Leadership Council: Potter reports that there has been no meeting and the next meeting is scheduled for May.

5.9 AFNCA: Hull has no report for he missed meeting due to travel.

5.10 Executive Director's Report: Vannier updated the committee on progress with the National Fleece Show. Vannier and Harrington visited the host hotel and found it to be an exceptional facility. There is a shuttle to

and from the airport, as well as to and from the Washington DC metro. Vannier also provided and reviewed the Dashboard report for the year-to-date.

6.0 Meeting Wrap:

6.1 Contact the Board Update: A member contacted the Board regarding the EPD program with some ideas and criticisms. The Board will discuss the letter at a future special topics meeting regarding EPDs.

6.2 Action Items: Miller reviewed the action items for the Board.

6.3 Next Meetings: May 9 (Strategic Plan) and May 23 (Business Meeting).

6.4 Adjournment: Motion to adjourn was made by Miller, and the meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel R. Shouvlin