Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2016

Meeting: Special Meeting—Business/Operations, March 28, 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

1.0 Meeting Opening: Meeting opened at 6:03 p.m. EDT with all Board members in attendance.

1.1 Ratify Email Votes:

1.1.1 I move we approve the proposed AlpacaGram from the Board as presented by Greene. (Motion: Shouvlin / Second: Johnson) Motion passed 9–0.

1.1.2 I move we approve the February 8th minutes. (Motion: Johnson / Second: Hull) Motion passed 8–0–1 (Abstain: Delaney).

1.1.3 I move we approve the February 22nd minutes. (Motion: Johnson / Second: Merriwether) Motion passed 6–3 (Votes against: Delaney, Greene, Vigus).

1.1.4 I move we approve the proposed article about spring births as presented by Hull. (Motion: Shouvlin / Second: Johnson) Motion passed 9–0.

1.1.5 I move we approve the proposed AlpacaGram about the national show and auction as presented by Potter. (Motion: Greene / Second: Merriwether) Motion passed 8—0 (Vote not cast: Hull).

The motion to ratify the email votes, excepting email vote 1.1.3, was made by Johnson and seconded by Miller. Motion passed (9–0).

2.0 Financial Report:

2.1 Financials: Vigus reviewed the financials for the year to date. The increased attendance at Nationals along with the increase in sponsorships and vendors has made the income for the National Halter Show substantially larger than budgeted. Vannier does not have a final figure at this time since all of the bills and income are not quite complete yet.

3.0 Old Business:

3.1 Nationals Update: Vannier reported that the show income will be over budget (see 2.1 above). Negotiating the contracts for the facility as well as having staff responsible for the auction streaming and the audio/visual for the show ring saved a great deal of money for the organization. The online streaming attendance for the auction was over 150 and 180 people watched the National Championship online. Vannier and staff found the facility wonderful to work with and the venue was excellent in terms of lighting and layout. As is done each year, Vannier will be sending out a survey to all exhibitors, consignors, and vendors. Their input will be used to make improvements from this year to next.

3.2 Final Wording—Previously Approved Bylaw Amendments: Vannier provided a copy of the final wording of the Bylaw amendments excepting the amendment regarding ET/AI. Johnson moved to accept the final wording and Hull seconded the motion. The motion passed (9–0).

3.3 Executive Director Performance Measurements: Potter presented the document with the revisions suggested by the Board. The motion to accept the Executive Director Performance Measurements was made by Shouvlin and seconded by Hull. The motion passed unanimously (9–0).

4.0 New Business:

4.1 JTCC Proposal—Spin-Off Accreditation Program: Miller provided a proposal from the JTCC regarding accrediting the judges used for Spin-Off competitions at AOA shows. Up to this point, there has been no training for Spin-Off Judges, which can lead to variation in judging. This accreditation is a way to create

more consistency and to assist Spin-Off Judges with a uniform protocol as well. Miller moved to accept the JTCC Accreditation Proposal for Spin-Off Judges, Shouvlin provided the second, and the motion passed unanimously (9–0).

5.0 Committee & Other Reports:

5.1 Government and Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom): Potter has no report for there was no meeting.

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

5.3 Judges Advisory Committee (JAC): Delaney has no report for there was no meeting.

5.4 Show Rules Committee (SRC): Shouvlin reported that the committee met on March 3rd and has now approved another waiver request for Walking Fleece classes, so there are two shows that will have this competition in 2016. There was an issue with a championship banner awarded incorrectly due to insufficient numbers and, as is always the case, the SRC concluded that the banner must be recalled. A member of an eastern show's management contacted the SRC to explore some new ideas they had to increase youth participation at their show. The committee decided that more discussion is necessary, so the SRC Chairs, Show System Administrator Margie Ault, and Board Liaison Shouvlin will be meeting with that manager to further explore these ideas.

5.5 Fiber and Fiber Products Committee: Johnson reported that the committee met on 7 March, 2016. The meeting focused on the open items for the 2016 AOA National Fleece Conference to ensure that Event Manager Harrington's expectations of the committee are being met. The committee is also working on organizing the AOA Marketplace at the show. The committee is excited about this new opportunity for AOA Members. The 2016 Student Design Competition is moving forward extremely well with what appears to be over 100 entries. The committee is excited to see the new ideas students submit utilizing alpaca fiber while competing in this great event.

The "Fiber As A Business" brochure is moving forward and the plan is to complete the review of the brochure in March, in order for it be printed and available for the 2016 AOA National Fleece Conference.

Next meeting is scheduled for 4 April 2016.

5.6 Alternative Products Committee: Miller stated that there is no report for there has been no meeting.

5.7 Revenue Task Force: Greene and Miller stated that there is no report for there has been no meeting.

5.8 Leadership Council: Potter stated that there is no report for there has been no meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for May.

5.9 AFNCA: Hull stated that there is no report for there has been no meeting.

5.10 Executive Director's Report: Vannier provided his dashboard report to the Board (see item 3.1 for the National Halter Show report). Staff is now focusing on preparations for the National Fleece Conference.

When time is available, the staff has been following up on membership renewal. All of the 2015 Registry and Association members who have not renewed for 2016, have been called by staff. On those calls, the staff members also discussed the importance of voting memberships. Currently the staff is calling all Active (non-paying) members to try to get them to purchase a Registry or Association membership.

Staff has also called all 2015 Benefactors to encourage them to renew. All previous vendors and sponsors have been contacted to encourage their involvement in the two AOA National Shows.

Vannier has sent notes of appreciation to all 2016 AOA National Halter Show sponsors, consignors, and vendors. Notes have been sent to all the contracted workers including the Judges, Barn Manager, and Show Superintendent.

6.0 Meeting Wrap:

6.1 Contact the Board Update: Potter reported she had received one contact from a member who talked about a children's book that she was hoping the Board would promote (she does not have an interest in the book other than appreciating its message). It was the consensus of the Board that it is not in a position to promote any individual product or service to the membership or public.

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

6.3 Next Meetings: April 11 (Strategic Plan) and April 25 (Business Meeting).

6.4 Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. EDT.

Respectfully submitted, Laurel R. Shouvlin