Board Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors:

Shauna Brummet, President	Rhonda Deschner, Treasurer	Patty Hasselbring, Director
Jeff Williamson, Vice President	Karen Ball, Director	Andy Merriwether, Director
Steve Aitchison, Secretary	Wendy Dittbrenner, Director	Mike Vigus, Director

Executive Director: Robin Gifford

Meeting: Conference Call - **Monday, December 16, 2019**
6:00 PM Eastern Time

Meeting called to order by Brummet at 6:04 PM Eastern.

1.0 Ratify Email Votes Brummet

No email votes to ratify.

2.0 Secretary's Report

2.1 November 18th board meeting minutes

There was a question about some of the content of the minutes that was clarified and the minutes will be finalized via email after the December 16th meeting.

3.0 Treasurer Report Deschner

3.1 November Financial Report

Treasurer presented the November financial report. Extensive discussion covered cost of Alpacas Magazine as the organization transitioned to the new magazine producers as it accounted for approximately $90,000 in additional expense during 2019. Board tasked Gifford with breaking down the expenses for the issues over the course of the year so it could be better understood and monitored in 2020.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 Executive Director on-boarding Brummet

Gifford has met with staff extensively and worked with Brummet to make the transition. She will meet with each Board Member individually.

4.2 DDC Swab Testing Update Brummet/Merriwether

Merriwether is continuing to work to put together the plan for testing.

4.3 Alpaca Breed Standard Update Brummet/Hasselbring/Vigus

Brummet, Hasselbring, and Vigus met with Suri Network president, Sue King. King expressed that her board is very interested in continuing discussions about the breed standards. The sticking point continues to be which organization will control the breed standard for suris going forward. Brummet suggested a committee that would be composed of suri owners, equally comprised of Suri Network members and AOA members, to review and suggest changes to the suri standard. Brummet offered to discuss this option with Sue

King. The board determined that the standard needs be quickly edited by the board members and then must be submitted to the membership according to the timeline set at the July board meeting. The board will provide their edits to the document (as provided by Vigus in October) by December 22, 2019 and Vigus and Dittbrenner will compile and make the edits. The resulting document will be put forth to the membership for comment January 15 - February 15, 2020, then revised accordingly by the board, and placed on the regular annual election ballot for a membership vote.

4.4 Fiber Committee Member Recruitment — Ball

The Committee currently has eight members and has reviewed applications of two potential new members. The board discussed their addition. Hasselbring moved to accept, Aitchison seconded. Approved 9-0.

The Committee currently has no chair since Norm Johnson stepped down. Ball expressed willingness to take that role. Aitchison moved that Ball become the new chair, Hasselbring seconded. Approved 9-0.

Discussion continued about term limits for committee members and the board will revisit the topic at a future meeting.

4.5 GIRCOM Message on Animal ID — Merriwether

Standards are changing in Indiana for animal identification so the Board will create a new message to the membership to be sure everyone is aware of the changes for future visits to Indiana (for the National Halter Show) or transport to the state.

4.6 Election Committee Nominees — Brummett

The board determined the 2020 Election Committee and Gifford will reach out to the selected nominees to confirm their desire to participate.

4.6 SRC Committee Nominees — Brummett

A new member was put forth for acceptance to the Show Rules Committee. Karen moved we accept the new member, Merriwether seconded. Approved 9-0.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Fleece Show membership - 13 membership, 34 entries — Brummet

Hasselbring moved to extend the Fleece Show Membership for the coming year, Ball seconded. Approved 9-0.

5.2 Shining Star Award - Nominations — Gifford

The Board selected the recipient for the 2020 Shining Star Award.

5.3 2020 Benefactors — Brummet

Brummet congratulated Gifford on her early work toward the Benefactor program and encouraged the Board to help promote it as well. Gifford recommended that the Board review the benefits and levels to be sure everything is still in line with our current plans.

5.4 Judge's Training Clinic Report — Williamson

There was excellent turnout by the judges for the event. Five judges went through the recertification program on Friday and the agenda was very full. Williamson gave great praise and credit to those on the committee that put the event together.

6.0 Executive Director Update/Dashboard

6.1 Dashboard — Gifford

Gifford covered that animal registrations were down this year, but membership is up.

6.2 Registration "Special" — Gifford

Staff suggested to Gifford that the organization should extend the special offer to register any alpaca for the $55 rate from 1-month to 3-months. The Board asked for numbers on the registrations during the 2019 special to better review the options.

6.3 30th Anniversary National Alpaca Halter Show — Gifford
Planning for the 2020 National Alpaca Halter Show has begun and the staff is working diligently on it.

6.4 2020 Budget Update — Gifford
Board discussed Gifford's initial look at the budget and suggested changes.

7.0 Committee and Other Reports

Ball left call at 6:30.

7.1 Government and Industry Relations Committee (meets 1st Monday) — Merriwether
Worked from the Strategic Plan to determine what to address in 2020. Continued work on Agri-Tourism to help inform the membership about the differences from state to state.

7.2 Judge Training and Certification Committee (meets 2nd Wednesday) — Williamson
Discussed the Judges' Training Clinic.

7.3 Judges Advisory Committee (meets 1st Tuesday) — Vigus
No report.

7.4 Show Rules Committee (meets 1st Thursday) — Deschner
Discussed the various sizes for the Breeder's Cup: Small would be under 20, Medium 21-75, and Large 76+. These numbers would represent all registered females for a particular ranch.

7.5 Fiber and Fiber Products Committee (meets 1st Monday) — Ball
No report.

7.6 Alternative Products Committee (meets 3rd Tuesday) — Aitchison
No meeting - no report.

7.7 Membership Committee (meets 2nd Monday) — Hasselbring
No meeting - no report.

7.8 Affiliates Council (meets 3-4 times annually) — Brummet
No meeting - no report.

7.9 Ad hoc Web Site (meets as needed) — Williamson/Aitchison
No meeting - no report.

7.10 Registry, Petitions, and Appeals (meets as needed) — Brummet, Dittbrenner, Merriwether
No report.

7.11 Grievance Review Committee (meets as needed) — Brummet, Hasselbring, Vigus
No report.

8.0 Meeting Wrap

8.1 Contact the Board Update — Brummet
No new Contact the Board items.

8.2 Action Items — Williamson

8.3 Next Meeting — January 27, 2020 — Brummet

8.4 Adjournment Motion: Hasselbring moved the meeting be adjourned, Williamson seconded. Passed 8-0. Absent: Ball. Meeting adjourned at 9:41 PM Eastern.