Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 28, 2017

Board of Directors: Don Greene, President; Mike Vigus, Vice President; Jeff Williamson, Secretary; Joe Crocco, Treasurer; Vern Butler, Director; Patty Hasselbring, Director; Steve Hull, Director; Andy Merriwether, Director; Laurel Shouvlin, Director

Executive Director: Bud Synhorst

Meeting: Monthly Business Meeting
Conference Call—November 28, 2017, 6:00 p.m. EST

Others Present: Sue King, Suri Network President

Proceedings: Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m. EST by President Greene.

1.0 Executive Director's Performance Evaluation (Executive Session): Motion to move into Executive Session made by Shouvlin, second by Crocco at 6:08 p.m. EST. Motion made to leave Executive Session made by Hasselbring, second by Shouvlin at 7:12 p.m. EST. Motion by Vigus to approve the Executive Director's performance and compensation, second by Shouvlin. Approved 9–0.

2.0 Ratify Email Votes: Vote to ratify email voting approved by the board on November 28, 2017 (Motion by Shouvlin, second by Hasselbring, Approved 9–0).

2.1 Approve contract for venue for 2018 AOA fiber event. Motion by Merriwether, second by Greene. Approved 8–0–1 (Vote not cast by Hull).

2.2 Approve "From the Board" message for November AlpacaGram. Motion by Vigus, second by Williamson. Approved 8–0–1 (Vote not cast by Hull).

2.3 Approve minutes of November 14, 2017, board meeting. Motion by Shouvlin, second by Greene. Approved 7–0–2 (Votes not cast by Hasselbring and Hull).

3.0 Financial Report: There were no questions as to the monthly financial report or the quarterly investment report. Up 2% on income over budget. Down in a number of areas. Overall budget is up $62K in profits over the 2017 budget.

4.0 Old Business:

4.1 Review and Discuss 2018 AOA Fiber Event: Synhorst discussed fees for attendees, vendors, workshops, etc. Reviewed previous memo presented by Synhorst at the 9/6/17 Board Meeting. The name for the show will be the "Natural Fiber Extravaganza powered by Alpaca Owners Association."

4.2 Review and approve the 2018 Revised Budget: Synhorst presented revised budget as asked to do at the previous board meeting. Budgeted profit projection for 2018 is $7,000. Motion made by Hasselbring, second by Vigus to approve the 2018 Budget. Approved 9–0.

5.0 New Business:

5.1 Election Committee Discussion for 2018 Board Elections: Reviewed the process for forming the election committee. Committee needs to be in place by January.

6.0 Executive Director Update/Dashboard: Report submitted prior to the board meeting. Synhorst reported that the American Farmer AOA piece aired and that he has received very positive feedback by members. It will air again on December 19 at 8:30 a.m. EST. They are also working on uploading the video, so a link can be sent out to members. Also, a third showing will happen in the first quarter of 2018. Date is TBD.

Membership renewal will start on December 1st. Advertising packages will be available soon after.

7.0 Discussion of Suri Breed Standard: Sue King presented the proposed changes from the Suri Network that they're willing to make in hopes of coming to an agreement with AOA and the use of the Suri Network Breed Standard.

8.0 Committee and Other Reports:

8.1 Government and Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom): Merriwether
GIRCom has created disaster preparedness documents, estate planning documents. They are working on a spreadsheet that farms can use to determine their farm profit and loss. GIRCom is monitoring new laws in California and Maryland which require all antibiotics be prescribed by a veterinarian. Pat Long attended the USAHA representing alpaca vets.

8.2 Judge Training and Certification Committee (JTCC): Hull
No report.

8.3 Judges Advisory Committee (JAC): Williamson
The JAC committee met on November 14, 2017. The only item of new business discussion was that the Uniformity of Length has been reinstated into the Walking Fleece scorecard. JAC has been tasked with drafting judging guidelines for Walking Fleece uniformity of length, to be used for Walking Fleece judge training and Walking Fleece shows beginning in 2018.

8.4 Show Rules Committee (SRC): Vigus
No report.

8.5 Fiber and Fiber Products Committee: Shouvlin
The committee met on November 6, 2017, and continues assisting staff with the planning of the upcoming AOA National Fleece event. Committee members have been identified as the leaders for various tasks associated with the event. Ideas have been submitted for workshops, as well as potential names for the revamped event. They have also generated some ideas for the seminars and keynote speakers. Those will be reviewed and prioritized by the committee and submitted to the staff for follow-up.

8.6 Alternative Products Committee: Butler
No report.

8.7 Membership Committee: Hasselbring
No report.

8.8 Affiliates Council: Greene
No report.

8.9 Ad Hoc Youth Committee: Shouvlin
No report.

8.10 US Alpaca Fiber Council: Synhorst
No report.

9.0 Meeting Wrap:

9.1 Contact the Board Update: A member contacted a board member regarding Fiber University and the AOA National Fleece Conference.

9.2 Action Items Review: Board of Directors to provide possible Election Committee candidates. Board of Directors to provide feedback on breed standard decision.

9.3 Next Meeting: December 19, 2017.

9.4 Adjournment: Motion by Williamson, second by Crocco. Motion carried unanimously. Adjourned at 8:33 p.m. EST.

Submitted by Jeff Williamson, Secretary.