



MEETING OF NEAOBA BOARD MEMBERS

April 17, 2021

Lennie Foss, Linda Hettrick, Keith Tetreault, Marc Worrell, Sarah Utterback Perez, Meghan Chryst, Leslie Frank and Jon Phaneuf were in attendance. Josh Stockton was unavailable. This meeting was held at The Common Man in Windham, NH.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m.

March's minutes were accepted.

The current treasurer's report was not voted on.

2021 NEAOBA Fall Shows:

Judges for the Fall Shows in Springfield will be Stephanie Glyptis for Coastal Classic and Amanda VandenBosch for the Green Mountain show. Walking fleece judge is yet to be determined. Suggestions for the seminars included agritourism, marketing, proper show technique, mentoring. Seminars should last half an hour to an hour at most. There will be no cost for the seminars hoping to entice new farms to attend the show and seminars.

2021 Showtacular:

Diana Timmerman will judge males and Nick Harrington-Smith will judge females.

Membership booklet:

Booklets and signs were passed out to Board members who will deliver to nearby farms. Others will be mailed. Any additional request for booklets will be charged only for shipping.

New Business:

A "Round Table" discussion brought forth many ideas that plague alpaca owners. Many new owners get their alpacas from rehoming or rescue situations without any mentoring. A suggestion for a Mentoring Board was made which will be comprised of volunteer NEAOBA member farms. A page can be added to the NEAOBA.org site with these names for new owners to contact with their questions and concerns. So much bad information is found on Facebook, so hopefully, this connection can get new owners the correct information from reputable sources.

It has always been a goal to get younger people involved in the alpaca community. The inclusion of FFA, VoAg schools and 4-H will be investigated by Meghan, since she was involved with FFA in school.

We also discussed how the shows have not kept up the professionalism that they once had. Lennie said that AOA would be addressing the show attire in upcoming months. Also, new members who have not had experience showing do not know the proper show ring etiquette. When we design our show applications, we plan to include a box asking if they are new to showing. Then we plan to have a quick show ring meeting for new exhibitors showing them the proper progression in the show ring – a kind of 4-H for adults.

The meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Next meeting: May 19, 2021 @ 7:30

Important Upcoming Dates

AOA Fiber Extravaganza: July 9-11, 2021

National Alpaca Open Farm Days: Sept. 26-26, 2021

Showtacular: Oct. 22-24, 2021

NEAOBA Fall Shows: Nov. 19-21, 2021