



MEETING OF NEAOBA BOARD MEMBERS

Jan. 19, 2022

Lennie Foss, Linda Hettrick, Keith Tetreault, Sarah Utterback Perez, Ruth Fegela, Joe Crocco and Leslie Frank were in attendance. Pam Hall and Meghan Chryst were unavailable.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m.

The Board would like to welcome a new member, Joe Crocco and welcome back to Ruth Fegela after a short absence and Linda Hettrick.

The treasurer's report will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The minutes of the December meeting were accepted.

Election of Executive Board:

President: Lennie Foss, Vice President: Joe Crocco Secretary: Linda Hettrick Treasurer: Leslie Frank

Committees:

Education: Keith Tetreault, Sarah Utterback-Perez, Linda Hettrick

Marketing: Ruthi Fegela

Membership: Linda Hettrick

Fiber: - to be determined

Showtacular: to be determined

2021 NEAOBA Fall Shows:

With the election of the new treasurer, the final numbers will be determined hopefully by the next meeting. There is some question as to whether Amanda VandenBosch was paid yet by the super or if we are still awaiting an invoice. Once that is determined, the final outcome will be assessed. With the question of Showtacular (see below), Lennie asked the Board to consider dropping the Fall Shows. Our profit is minimal if at all existent and the dates available are not optimal. The Board will consider whether or not to continue once all the information is available. One note to our advantage: an abundance of ribbons was ordered, so should there be any shows, this is one cost that may be negligible.

2021 Showtacular:

A tentative profit of approximately \$25,000 is to be split between Empire and NEAOBA. There will be a Showtacular meeting coming up to finalize everything.

The Empire Board has let Lennie know that they do not wish to include NEAOBA in next year's Showtacular. Their reasons include no Board participation in getting live auction items and limited participation at the event. Lennie reminded them that at previous years, Julie Butler handled both the live auction and silent auction alone, that he provided the crew for working the weekend and Empire had very limited participation. They also did not appreciate NEAOBA holding an event in the Fall Shows in Springfield. Empire will be meeting to discuss the future of Showtacular. Lennie will speak with the president of Empire to discuss a contract and terms and conditions of a mutual show. The date and location has already been secured.

Education:

The education committee will work on ideas for offering seminars. It was requested that we try to make the seminars free or very minimal cost for members. Ruthi mentioned previous summer picnics with an educational class offered at the same time. Sponsors could be gotten to cover the cost of the food.

Old Business:

Election results showed all 3 candidates were elected with a single write-in vote of Tim Toth. Tim Toth (Pohja Farm) was contacted to see if there was any interest in filling in should there be any opening and he was agreeable. Another member (Kristin Leffingwell of Ledgecreek Farm) contacted Linda and said she would be interested in helping if there was any need. Both Meghan and Pam will be contacted to ask if they plan on participating in any Board meetings or activities and if they plan on continuing on the Board.

New Business:

Joe Crocco suggested we contact the Big E about their alpaca show. He said the numbers have been declining in the past several years and they were down to less than 40 this past show. If NEAOBA wants to get involved in a regional, more accessible area, he suggested we work with the Big E to promote their show. Previously Pam Stenman who helps organize the Big E show has refused help. The show is not AOA certified. Lennie will contact Rob (our contact for Eastern States venue) and see how we can get involved.

The Maine Alpaca Association is disbanding. Lennie will speak with Anne Gobes regarding this.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next meeting: Feb. 9, 2022 @ 7:00 p.m.

Important Upcoming Dates

New Hampshire Farm and Forest: Feb. 2, 2022

National Agriculture Day: March 22, 2022

North American Alpaca Show/Northeast Alpaca Show: April 1-3, 2022