



MEETING OF NEAOBA BOARD MEMBERS

March 10, 2022

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 p.m.

The minutes of the February meeting were accepted.

The treasurer's report was accepted.

2021 Fall Shows:

We still have not gotten the invoice from Judge Amanda VandenBosch. At this point, from Leslie's numbers, we had a loss of \$2399 not including Amanda's cost.

2022 Showtacular:

We still don't have the final numbers from Showtacular.

NEAOBA is waiting for the Empire decision to include us in Showtacular. A contract was proposed and neither affiliate may have a separate show within 4 months of Showtacular. The president, vice president and treasurer of each affiliate will be on the Showtacular committee. This was acceptable to the NEAOBA Board, so we will wait to hear from Empire as to the future of Showtacular. Jude Anderson has made her availability to judge known and Amanda VandenBosch will be approached for the 2nd judge.

Education:

We are moving forward with the July event at Westford Fairgrounds in MA. The cost is \$750/day from 7:30 am to 7:30 pm. A \$100 deposit will hold July 9 for us and Leslie will get that to Keith. The event will be open to the public from 10-4. Our insurance company will be contacted to provide a rider. We will encourage members to bring alpacas. Randy Hall of Round Hill alpacas will be contacted about bringing his 4-H group to demonstrate the Obstacle Course. Vendors will be charged a nominal fee for NEAOBA members and higher for non-members. NEAFP will be contacted about a fiber pick-up. Agway (near Westford) holds a Winter Farmer's Market, so Keith will contact them about a sponsorship and potential vendors. Advertising on tv, radio, internet, newspapers will be investigated. AOA does have a marketing contact. A fleece show was suggested, however, the cost of a judge and AOA certification canceled that idea. Demonstrators will be needed so everyone is urged to find skirting, picking, carding, weaving, hand spinning, drop spindle spinning, needle felting, wet felting, etc. The Education committee will meet in the following week to proceed.

Old Business:

No more information from the Big E regarding our help at their alpaca show. Lennie put in a call but has not received a return call yet.

Regarding picnics: Ruthi suggested that any farm that has a shearing day event may qualify for the picnic reimbursement provided the farm has an educational talk. Farms may receive up to \$400 for food however a sign-in and emails for attendees must be provided.

New Business:

A neo-natal seminar was suggested. Dr. Cheryl DeWitt was contacted to see her availability. More information will follow as she was away for a few weeks and will contact Linda when she returns.

The National show will be held next week in Indiana. NEAOBA has sent a regional basket to the auction previously and Lennie asked any of the Board members to forward items for our basket directly to the show for him to donate at the auction. Our basket last year brought in the highest bid for baskets and we hope to continue the trend.

Normally, the Board meets face-to-face for a meeting in the Spring, however, with so many events going on, we will plan to meet late Summer or early Fall. The date and time will be determined at a later date.

The meeting adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Next meeting: April 14, 2022 @ 7:30 p.m.

Important Upcoming Dates

National Agriculture Day: March 22, 2022

Mazuri AOA National Alpaca Show: March 18-20, 2022

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

NEAOBA Event: July 9, 2022

Showtacular: Oct. 29-30, 2022