



Greater Appalachian Llama and Alpaca Association

Board of Directors Meeting Teleconference February 8, 2012

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm

Board Members Present: Paul Hastings, Tracey Gaul, Deb Elias, Carol Millard, Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Terry Beal, Kathleen Patterson

Board Members Absent: Miranda Brown, Erika Cadreact, Chuck Leach (Industry Liaison)

Old Business

Approval of Minutes: BOD monthly meeting minutes from January 11, 2012 were approved by email.

Discussion took place about the Endowment Fund (EF). Issues discussed included the following:

- Organizing a committee to oversee the management of the EF
- In today's financial climate, is it realistic to wait until the original goal of \$100,000 is reached or should we now begin to spend EF money
- Should the EF be set up as a 501c3 organization with the hope of getting more tax advantaged donations, perhaps called a "Legacy Fund"
- The issue of lobbying
- The need for a separate BOD and separate financials for a 501c3 and what procedures would be used to get money out of the EF if it did become a 501c3.
- Merging the EF with the Research and Government Relations (RGR) line in the GALA budget

Jane Hamilton-Merritt volunteered to research GALA's lobbying history and present her findings to the BOD. Carol Millard asked what implications there would be to our membership if GALA itself became a 501c3. The EF committee will report on these two issues.

The BOD will give further consideration to the questions presented earlier by Carol Millard.

Facebook update

-Visits to the page increased from 86 to 150. R.J. Stangerlin and Paul Hastings have been actively working on frequent additions to the page.

Committee Update

In response to Terry Beal's question, Paul Hastings is reviewing committee structure suggestions.

New Business

Consideration was given to the email request from Marian Bragg that GALA support, in part, the attendance of Josh Meador at an ILR Show Division Llama Halter/ Performance/ Conformation Judging Clinic and Learning Seminar. The BOD, however, declined the request as there is no precedent for supporting this type of request.

The need for a timely procedure to approve minutes was discussed. Assuring that content of the minutes is accurate and that votes are recorded are both important and required. Paul Hastings stated that if GALA committees are restructured, they can provide committee reports for BOD meetings. This can facilitate accurate minute taking and thus provide the secretary the opportunity to more actively participate in meetings while taking notes. It was decided that, within a week of the meeting, a draft of the minutes will be sent to the president and vice-president for their review. Within 3 days they will send their comments to the secretary. Minutes will then be sent to the rest of the BOD, at least a week prior to the next scheduled meeting, to be voted upon at the meeting. Whether further corrections will be made at the meeting or within 3 days of the meeting has not been decided.

Next Meeting Date and Time: March 7, 2012 7:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at 8:08 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Patterson, Secretary