



Greater Appalachian Llama and Alpaca Association

Board of Directors Face to Face
November 7, 2013 Convened at 5:38

In Attendance: Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Tracey Gaul, Carol Millard, Carol Reigh, Kelly Ralph, Don Hines, Terry Beal, Deb Elias, Sandy Page, Chuck Leach.
Past Presidents (non voting): Hilary Ware, Marc Page, Lynne Pomerleau
New Board Members (non voting): Bob Wolfe, Barb Baker

Minutes Approval: Carol Millard made a motion to accept the minutes as written with a second by Terry Beal. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Terry Beal made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and file for audit. Sandy Page seconded it and the motion carried.

Budget: Terry Beal and Carol Millard worked hard to get a budget together to present to the board for approval. Terry Beal presented the Board with a nice summary of the operating expenses of GALA in a "Budget for Dummies Worksheet." Deb Elias made a motion to approve the 2014 budget with a second by Carol Reigh. Motion carried.

End of the Year Committee Reports: The President requested that everyone submit an "End of the year report" to be circulated to the Board in advance.

Kelly Ralph gave a quick summary of striving to get **corporate sponsorship**. The biggest hurdle is that GALA is not a 501c3.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election Results: Sandy Page thanked and recognized the other members of her committee, Lynne Pomerleau and Patti Conboy for their hard work in vetting and procuring members to run for the Board. There were 268 ballots sent out, 130 returned which is a 49% return rate.

Lama Medical Research: Hilary Ware reported that there were 4 camelid studies submitted to Morris for 2014 funding. Only 2 of them were approved by the LMRG (Lama Medical Research Group) and ARF (Alpaca Research Foundation). Dr. Terje Raudsepp's project at Texas A&M called Improving the Alpaca Genome Sequence Assembly to Allow Efficient Discovery of the Underlying Genetic Causes of Disease, Disorders and Traits (D14LA-005) was ranked as #1 by the LMRG, ARF, and the Morris Animal Foundation Scientific Advisory Board. It is a 3 year study costing \$130,078. Kelly Ralph made a motion to support this study D14LA-005 in the amount of \$5,000 for our 2013 contribution to Morris. Terry Beal seconded the motion and it passed.

Newsletter Update: Carol Millard reported that the November newsletter was mailed and that Heather Baylis was willing to do the February newsletter. Carol Reigh asked the Board to consider changing the publication date in November to AFTER the Annual Conference. By consensus, the board decided to have the November newsletter go to publication after the conference with mailbox arrival date still being November.

Mentoring Project: Tracey Gaul reported that the mentoring project is not small task and that the committee is working on a referral list of mentors, training program for mentors and a flow chart for course of action. The committee is planning on meeting during the conference.

Ambassador Card Project: Jane Hamilton-Merritt unveiled her idea of having Ambassador Cards available to members to hand out to people interested in learning more about camelids and GALA. She and Bev Vienckowski worked on designing and financing a sample run for the board and membership to see. The cards have a QR code on it to take people to the website and FAQ on the back. Carol Millard made a motion to permit the Ambassador cards to have the GALA logo on them and the QR code to our website. Don Hines seconded it and the motion carried.

Photo Contest: Bob Patterson resigned from doing the photo contest. The consensus of the Board was to continue the photo contest and to form a committee to help bring back the interest in it. Bob Wolfe volunteered to head up this project.

Agenda for the Annual Meeting was worked on.

Election of Officers for 2014: Terry Beal made a motion with a second by Don Hines to approve the following officers for 2014: Motion carried.

President—Kelly Ralph
Vice President—Terry Beal
Secretary—Carol Reigh
Treasurer—Carol Millard.

Next Board Meeting via conference call is January 8, 2014.

Tracey Gaul made a motion to adjourn with a second by Carol Millard. Motion carried.