

Joint Meeting of ALSA and ILR Boards of Directors
November 17, 2015
Call to order: 6:00 p.m. MST

Roll Call:

ALSA Board

President: Paul Schwartz
Vice President: Jim Doyle
Secretary: Cheryl Juntilla
Board Members: Debbie Andrews
Allen Davis
Susan Leslie
Lauri Jones

ILR Board

President: Debi Garvin
Vice President: Sean Hart
Secretary: Karen Baum
Treasurer: Harvey Pool
Board Member: Linda Hayes
ILR SD Executive Committee
Phil Feiner
Darrell Anderson

Sean opened by thanking everyone for agreeing to meet and explained that Phil and Darrell were participating as members of the ILR SD Executive Committee. The Executive Committee (EC) was appointed by the ILR BOD and has served as an advisory committee to the ILR Board of Directors. As of January 1st the EC will be taking over the operation of the ILR Show Division. Sean and Debi served as spokesperson for the ILR Board, Paul as spokesperson for the ALSA Board and Phil as spokesperson for the ILR SD Executive Committee. Cheryl took minutes for ALSA and Linda & Karen took minutes for the ILR.

Paul thanked the ILR Board for the registration and transfer certificates donated in sponsorship of the ALSA Grand National Show of Champions and said they were all well received. As requested, he made sure that one each had been given to the winners of the Produce of Dam and Get of Sire classes. He also thanked the ILR for the "I Want a Llama" sponsorship.

Phil explained that the ultimate goal of this meeting was to find a way to combine efforts to make showing easier for exhibitors and volunteers because the llama community is too small to not work together. He said a good first step would be to have a joint national event, but he was not sure how it would work because of the issues with dual sanctioned shows. Another thought expressed was the idea of having a dual sanctioned show with one judge. Paul said that ALSA rules require double shows to have two judges and that if exhibitors are paying two entry fees there should be two judges. Paul said the ALSA Board would have to crunch numbers to see if such a show would be in the best interests of ALSA members. Paul pointed out that everyone can already take part in the events of both associations. Phil explained that the Executive Committee is not in the business of putting on shows and that all ILR shows except for the Gathering are sponsored and produced by individuals.

Phil mentioned that the ILR will have an Eastern and Western Championship show and would like ALSA to perhaps join us. Paul said that the number of ALSA Regional Championships has grown and for 2016 all of its Regions should already be covered except for the Eastern Region.

It was agreed that it would be nice to know how much overlap there is between the two memberships. Phil explained that the reason the ILR cannot produce a membership list on the website is a programming/database issue. The current ILR web site program is antiquated and every change to it requires a programmer which is very expensive. The ILR is in the process of creating a whole new website and database interface which should make it possible to post a membership list on the website.

Linda said it would be nice to explore having the ILR and ALSA cooperate on advertising to save money, but Paul indicated that would not be feasible as the two organizations are competitors.

The differences between the ALSA Grand National Show of Champions and the ILR Gathering were discussed as well as differences in rules and judging criteria. Phil explained that fiber is a small component in ILR halter judging and is typically used in close pairs or as a tie-breaker, so the differences aren't that large. Karen suggested a big joint show that was not necessarily a "national" show might be a good intermediate step.

Paul pointed out that ALSA has always supported the ILR by requiring registration certificates for animals entered in ALSA shows, but wondered how do we overcome the fact that the Show Division is in competition against ALSA? He also noted that the ALSA system has worked for more than 18 years.

Darrell said that a big joint show/event could be well attended because people are tired of having to choose between two associations and miss socializing with friends. It was agreed that the ALSA Board would discuss the ideas raised, get input from ALSA committee chairs and get back in touch with the ILR Board in February, 2016.

Phil thanked everyone for their willingness to take this first step. Cheryl and Linda will work together to come up with a joint set of minutes.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:49 p.m. MST.

Linda Hayes and Karen Baum, ILR Co-Recording Secretaries
Cheryl Juntilla, ALSA Secretary