

## **Board Minutes from Meeting March 14, 2007**

President called the meeting to order at 8:07 PM EST. The meeting is being recorded.

### **Members Present:**

Kay Sharpnack	-	President
Dan Milton	-	Vice President
Julie Heggie	-	Secretary
Lora Crawford	-	Board Member
Wally Baker	-	Board Member
Ken Fenley	-	Board Member
Penny Davidson	-	Board Member
Wayne Rankin	-	Treasurer
Cheryl Ryberg	-	Administrative Manager

Next Board meeting will be held at 8:00 PM EST on April 11, 2007

**Dan moved and Lora seconded a motion that the February 14, 2007 meeting minutes be approved. Motion passed.**

### **Treasurer's Report:** Wayne Rankin

Wayne suggested that ALSA purchase Quick Books, (he will donate money), so that the current system, (Quicken) can be replaced. Quick Books is by far the superior program for what the ALSA Office is doing. **Ken moved and Dan seconded a motion that ALSA purchase Quick Books. Motion passed.**

Wayne has asked the BOD to once again look over the proposed 2007 budget and let him know of ideas for lowering expenses and/or raising income. After some discussion and several ideas being thrown out for discussion. **Lora moved and Penny seconded a motion to raise ALSA Membership fees \$5.00 per membership (youth excluded) for 2008. Motion passed. Ken moved and Julie seconded a motion for a roll call vote on the previous motion. Lora – Yes; Penny – Yes; Wally – Yes; Dan – Yes; Ken – No; Julie – No.**

**Julie moved and Ken seconded a motion that we go into Executive Session at 9:08 PM EST. Motion passed.**

**Julie moved and Wally seconded a motion that we come out of Executive Session at 9:30 PM EST. Motion passed.**

### **Treasurer's Report Continued:**

Wayne feels that many shortfalls will be covered by the following: a \$5.00 increase in membership dues (Youth excluded); Lifetime Members not receiving membership cards every year; Animal points not being mailed out; and a reduction in the cost for the 2007 Regional and Grand National ribbons due to the number of leftover 2006 ribbons and leftover ribbons that will be reused.

Dan asked for clarification on the handbook printing expense not being listed in the Draft Budget. Wayne agreed it had not been included and will leave an additional expense of \$15,000 uncovered for the 2007 year.

### **Website:**

Update by Dan:

Dan and Grant have come up with 4 possible website providers. Trying to get quotes from possible providers is being a challenge because they have to get together with both Dan and Grant so Grant can let them know all the particulars.

The tools the website will have will remain the same, however the accuracy will improve. The amount of time required to get information will be much faster. The office will be able to update information, it will no longer have to go to a Webmaster to upload.

Grant has made a list of membership email addresses for the mass email service ALSA will be using, and will be getting that to Cheryl. Cheryl will forward it to Marilyn Nenni (Website Chair). Dan will be contacting Marilyn for an ALSA credit card purchase of the service as soon as possible.

**Lora moved that the BOD re-address the increase in 2008 Adult Membership fees. No second. Motion failed.**

### **Office:**

Cheryl will include a request in future show packets that all numbers on Judge's Cards need to correspond with Llama name on paperwork sent to the office for recording.

The forms coming out of the ALSA office, going to Show Supers, needs to be more professional looking. Wally is to send this to Show Management for updating. Dan will get the list to Wally.

Cheryl will alert the BOD when the Office is down to 500 Animal Award Certificates. Per member request and BOD agreement, the format, logo, and colors will be changed.

Member concern regarding no membership card has been resolved by office.

**Julie moved and Lora seconded a motion that a by law change be put on the ballot for the upcoming election, regarding who is to keep and update the correct Judge's list. It is currently the Secretary, and the BOD would like to see that changed to the Judge's Committee Chair. Motion passed.**

## **Old Business**

Member letter regarding renaming of fiber divisions in halter has been sent to the Judges Committee for the comments and recommendation of all judges.

Member letter regarding suri llama division is being sent to the Judges Committee for comments and recommendation of all judges.

Reinstatement of the Education and Show Clinic Committee has been tabled until each BOD member has had time to look over proposal. President will ask for an email vote.

The show module being developed by the ILR may be released for a trial run as soon as March 31<sup>st</sup>. Dan will forward the criteria for the module on to Show Management for comments.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Alpaca Committee**

Chair - Debbie Shellabarger

The alpaca committee continues to monitor the BVDV (Bovine Viral Diarrhea Virus also known as BVD) situation and feels that it has enough good background information and substantial research to support ALSA's present view that there should be no required testing of llamas and alpacas (Youth and Performance) at ALSA shows.

### **Election Committee**

Chair - Sherry Adamcyk

1. Nominations are really starting to come in. Most common form of submission has been fax, with email second and regular mail as the final method of delivery.
2. New Committee Business: I would like to highly recommend and request that the BOD Election Process / Information be given it's own link and page on the ALSA website. I have had several emails requesting where to find the forms, stating that they are hard to find. Currently, they are thrown in among the general board information on that page. As Chair of this committee, it is of my opinion that we could serve our membership better and more efficiently if the Election Process. Information was pulled away from all the other BOD info. I am aware that BOD page has direct ties to the election; however, people do not want to have to spend a lot of time searching for information or forms. They want it easily accessible. With our yearly average of around

10% - 18% of our members actually taking an active role in the election process, it would behoove the organization to make the election information readily available and

easy to use and understand. This would allow the election process information to be a static posting right from the start on this proposed webpage. After that process section, we would be able to post nomination forms, regional map, available positions and final results without cluttering up the BOD business section of the website. Please consider this request and understand that it is made not to add more work for the webmaster, but another effort to get more members involved in the election process for the positions that lead this organization. Thank you for your consideration in this matter. **Julie moved and Ken seconded a motion that once we have a new website provider in place a page will be created as the election committee has suggested. Motion passed.**

**Lora moved and Julie seconded a motion that in the standing rules, page 2, article II language will be changed to a CPA firm will tally the ballots. Election Committee will be removed. Motion passed.**

Dan will have a practice mass email sent to the membership telling them that for election forms go to a specific link.

Dan will answer member letter regarding Standing Rule, page 2, Article II.

Wally has been asked to bring to the BOD some insight as to why the election process within ALSA is such a secretive process.

#### **Ethics Committee**

Chair: Maryan Baker

No Report

#### **Fiber Committee**

Chair: June Black

This month, once again, we have spent the bulk of our time on updates to be incorporated into *The ALSA 15<sup>th</sup> Edition Handbook*. Combing through the Handbook has caused us to re-evaluate the ALSA Fleece Judging Program.

#### Recommendations:

The Fiber Committee urgently and strongly recommends that ALSA immediately begin enforcing the rule that judges must re-certify every three years. Fleece judges, in particular, have not been re-certifying, but have remained on the list of certified judges' list. This has resulted in inconsistent judging, and unhappy ALSA members who have entered these fleece shows. In the past we have heard the complaint that there are not enough fleece judging clinics. Item #3 in this list will take care of this concern.

The Fiber Committee also strongly recommends that the ALSA hold a minimum of one Beginning Level Fleece Judging Clinic and one Advanced Level Fleece Judging Clinic every year (two clinics – not a combined clinic), with the requirement that a minimum number (at least eight (8); more if the ALSA Office informs us it's higher) of participants register for each clinic. If a clinic does not have the required minimum

number of registered participants at least two weeks prior to the clinic date, it may be canceled.

**Finance and Budget Committee – See Treasurer’s Report**

Chair: Craig Swindler

**Ken moved and Julie seconded a motion that it is a good idea to have a second signature on the Capitol One accounts. This person should be Dan. Motion passed.**

**Grand National Committee**

Chair: Norris Berg

1. Since the last ALSA BOD conference call the Grand National Committee selected the judges for the 2007 Grand Nationals. We appreciate the quick response by the ALSA BOD by approving these judges using the email voting system. Judges approved are (contracts will be sent mid March):

Halter

- Mark Smith
- Phil Feiner
- Danielle Wagoner

Performance

- Judie Moser
- Simon Zadina
- Patti Fischer
- Barb Harris
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2. A review of Part F of the ALSA Handbook (Grand National Section) has been accomplished with suggested changes sent to the Grand National Committee Liaison for review and forwarding to the Handbook Committee.
3. An ALSA member suggested a review of the Grand National Sponsor Levels. In the past we have had a Gold Sponsor (\$5,000), Silver Sponsor (\$2,500) and last year an Individual/Farm Sponsor was added (\$250). To allow more to participate we have added a Llama Association Sponsor level (\$350) and an additional Individual/Farm Sponsor level (\$100). This should allow all interested llama people to sign on as sponsors. Promotional sponsor banners for Gold and Silver levels will be ordered upon receipt of sponsorship monies. Expect delivery in 2-3 weeks.
4. ALSA member suggested the Youth Alpaca Performance Classes be divided by ages. The suggestion was based on increased number of exhibitors and they felt it was unfair for an 8 or 9 year old to show against a 17 or 18 year old. The Grand National Committee does not recommend this suggestion for approval at this time. ALSA Handbook, Part Q, Section 6, paragraph C states *“The age divisions at any show may be combined if there are fewer than 8 total entries in any two of the age divisions.”* This suggestion should be

reconsidered after entries have met the above referenced rule after two consecutive years. Further, number of exhibitors have remained level for the past four years. 2006 – 8 exhibitors, 2005 – 6 exhibitors, 2004 – 6 exhibitors and 2003 – 8 exhibitors. In addition, in 2006 a 11 year old exhibitor won National Grand Champion and the youngest exhibitor at age 9 won National Reserve Grand Champion.

5. The Youth Committee has suggested that an auction be held at the Grand National to support the ALSA scholarship fund. The Grand National Committee supports this worthwhile program and concept. We recommend a silent auction the first year or two. The use of an auctioneer, for example, during the cocktail party should be considered at a future date. Due to high level of activity and requirements of our Nebraska volunteers we recommend this activity be staffed by the Youth Committee volunteers. The Grand National Committee will provide tables for display purposes and assist the Youth Committee as time allows. Our point of contact for this project is Dee January.
6. ALSA member suggested The Grand National provide a herdsire row much the same as is done at Celebrity Show and Sale to include a parade of herdsires, etc. Currently the Grand National starts Friday morning and runs 3 full days. At present, we do not recommend a herdsire row due to time constraints.

#### Other activities of the Grand National Committee

1. Due to length of show days, consideration is being given to move the banquet to Saturday night with the cocktail part to be held on Friday night.
2. Facility and food vendor contracts are in their final stages.
3. Performance area is always in need of volunteers from different regions of ALSA to be in charge of the 3 different classes. Anyone interested should contact any Grand National Committee member.
4. Logo contest for the 2007 Grand Nationals has resulted in multiple entries. However, we would like more to increase our selection choices.

All Grand National Committee members will be at the Celebrity Show and Sale. A face to face meeting will be held as we attempt to make the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Grand National the best ever.

#### **Handbook Committee**

Chair: Helen Feick

Committee is waiting to receive all handbook changes from committee's. Once received they will start putting the changes in place and get the handbook to a printer.

#### **Judges Committee**

Chair: Lavona Fercho

1. Marilyn Nenni has requested an Upgrade from Level I to Level II as Youth and Performance Judge. Marilyn has Judged several Youth and Performance

Shows, Superintended several shows, and has extensive credentials for teaching Performance to 4H Groups and Youth Groups and well as Youth Performance shows. She re-certified at a Advanced Judges Clinic in 2006 and shows all requisites for advancement to Level II.

2. The Committee requests tentative approval of a Beginning and Advanced Llama Judges Clinic hosted by Paige McGrath, at Lower Sherwood farm in Charlottesville VA. for June 22, 23, 24, 2007. There were initially three Judges interested, however due to the show season and birthing date conflicts, two are now attending the Hinterland clinic. This Clinic has been advertised in the February Judges Staying in Touch email blast, and will be highlighted again in March for interest, but will not be confirmed until April when numbers warrant.

3. The Committee requests the approval of a stand alone Youth and Performance Judges Clinic for later in 2007. Through the Judges Staying In Touch email blasts, it appears there is sufficient interest in this type of Clinic. Judges would have to have completed a Beginning Level Llama Halter Judges Clinic to learn correct anatomy and conformation of llamas, as well as performance, youth and showmanship, before advancing to a Youth Performance Judges Clinic. This too will be further highlighted in the Judges email blast. **Ken moved and Penny seconded a motion to accept the Judges Committee Report. Motion passed.**

### **Membership Committee**

Chair: Pam Jensen

The membership committee has been busy, but not swamped.

We are currently gathering names for the Special Recognition Awards at Grand Nationals in 2007 (better known as the "grunt awards"). I have 2 names submitted thus far. We are planning on 1 award from each region.

Likewise, we are brainstorming on ideas to promote ALSA and bring new members to our organization. I have received a couple of nice thoughts....

1. How a page in Showring that lists
  - New Members (name and address)
  - Sponsored by: (name and address)
2. Making the ALSA youth program and 4-H youth program a bit more in line with each other. This might be a way to build youth membership.
3. How about on the application form for membership, a space to list the name and address of the person sponsoring or encouraging a person to join. That sponsoring person would then receive a discount on their next years members of say 50% for 1 person sponsored, 75% for 2 people sponsored. If a person brings 3 new people into the membership, then the membership of the sponsoring person would be free for 1 year. This idea works well for other business operations, why not ALSA>

Just some ideas we are kicking around.

Show season is beginning and we still have on hand some ALSA promotional booklets. Would like to see these distributed at some shows and people can contact Pam Jensen to acquire them. **BOD approves #1 with members names on website instead of in showing, #2 approved, #3 not approved at this time.**

**Nomination Committee**

Chair: Trish Brandt-Robuck

No Report

**Performance Committee**

Chair: Melanie McMurray, MD

No Report

**Policy and Planning Committee**

Chair: Jerry Miller

No Report

**Promotion Committee**

Chair: Mandy Gerken

No Report

**Protest Committee**

Chair: Jim Nenni

All is peaceful!

**Publications Committee**

Chair: David Armer

No Report

**Regional Committee**

Chair: Betty Moe

Some of our Regional Superintendents already have their judges contracted. Jeff Rucker, Rocky Mountain Region has Lora Crawford; Mike Haumschild has Lorraine Guyn; Glen Pfefferkorn has Adrienne Hochee. These are the only ones I've heard from so far

I have asked all the Regional Superintendents to economize their shows in every way they can this year; booking judges early and asking them to get the best buy they can on airfare, get any outside sponsors they can, utilize any money making projects they can, etc.

Also, all of the Superintendents and I are going over the Regional packets sent out by the ALSA office last year for any changes we want made. We understand that project needs to be completed by April 15<sup>th</sup>.



I audited the class, Championship, Reserve Championship and Top-5 ribbons used by each Region and made recommendations for the amounts of fill-in ribbons to be made for each Region based on the amounts used in 2006. This should give us a substantial savings on our ribbon costs for 2007.

### **Show Management Committee**

Chair: Phil Feiner

No Report

### **Youth Committee**

Chair: Barb Harris

On February 12, Julie Heggie forwarded an email to the Youth Committee from a member regarding the membership fees charged to youth members. This is a topic that has been discussed since the Youth Dues were raised a few years back. Many families faced decisions as to how many of their kids could participate based on the increase.

At this time the committee would like to make the following recommendation on dues charged to the youth.

Youth dues would be restructured in the following manner:

- Full Youth Member - \$25 per year –Eligible to participate at ALSA shows, earn points and all ALSA youth awards. They would receive one (1) ALSA handbook, ShowRing and Youth Judging Manual.
- Associate Youth Member - \$15 per year – Eligible to participate at ALSA shows and receive one (1) ALSA Handbook.

Associate Youth Members wishing to upgrade would have to pay the difference between the memberships. Points from that point on would be tracked. If they wish to have 2 shows or less searched for points and they have all the show information this would be done for free.

This proposal would allow youth who are members of groups to become members of ALSA while keeping the cost low for them. It would hopefully encourage more youth who are involved with 4-H, etc to participate as ALSA members. An example would be that 2 youth from a family could join for \$30. This would be only \$5 more than what a non-member youth fee/per show would cost plus the youth would now be eligible to show at numerous shows rather than just one. This may encourage more showing which could generate more show ALSA fees. **Julie moved and Wally seconded a motion to accept the youth committee recommendations beginning January 2008, with the following exception, Associate Youth Members will not be awarded points. Motion passed.**

**Ken moved and Dan seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 AM EST on March 15, 2007. Motion passed.**