

Regular Monthly Meeting of ALSA

BOD Meeting Minutes: April 14, 2009

The ALSA BOD meeting was called to order by President, Julie Heggie, at 8:30 p.m. EST.

ROLL CALL:

Members present:

Julie Heggie - President

Cathie Kindler – Vice President

Marilyn Nenni – Secretary

Larry Lewellyn – Board Member

Ulin Andrews – Board Member

Trish Brandt-Robuck – Board Member

Cheryl Ryberg – Office Manager

Tom Parsons – Treasurer, was not present.

This meeting was recorded.

PROCEEDINGS:

Next Board Meetings: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 at 8:00 p.m. EST

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tom Parsons, Treasurer

Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2009

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash : \$45,931

Cash-Investment Account: 82,347

Cash-Memorials 17,462

Total Current Assets 145,740

Fixed Assets

Software 21,190

TOTAL ASSETS \$166,930

EQUITY

Retained Earnings \$166,930

1. Insurance for Shows – Tabled until May meeting.
2. Review of figures for 2009 ALSA Shows reveal that compared to all ALSA shows held in 2008, 2009 ALSA shows are only down 12% as of this time. Many fall shows have not yet been sanctioned so we anticipate that percentage to even be less at the end of the year. At the same time we are seeing an increase in ALSA fees indicating more animals are being shown this year as compared to the same time frame in 2008. Most ALSA shows held already this year are reporting 10–20% increase in attendance. ALSA cash position is strong.

OFFICE BUSINESS: Cheryl Ryberg, Office Manager

We sent out 291 Youth Top Ten Certificates and are in need of purchasing more certificate folders, price for 3,000 is \$2,138. These are a good way of sending and storing ALSA Certificates. Please approve this purchase.

Discussion: *This item was referred to the Treasurer for further recommendation.*

We have had a lot of recent renewals and new memberships both adult and youth. We should reach 1,200 memberships by the end of April as many members do not renew or join until they enter their first show of the new year.

I request permission to again attend the Camelid Community Conference and encourage a director to join me. This is a group of all of the large lama organizations and we need to be represented. I will be glad to share a room as I did last year to help with expense.

Discussion: *Trish made a motion to send Cheryl and BOD member, Cathie Kindler, to Kansas City to represent ALSA at the Camelid Community Conference. Ulin seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Database

Discussion: *The database was put online for testing as scheduled on April 3. Committee members, as well as “testers” have been combing through the system and are very pleased with the results. As would be expected, some minor tweaking needs to be done at this time, further testing, and then out to the membership.*

2. Goals and Objectives for 2009

Discussion: *Setting measurable goals and objectives. Trish will organize for review and discussion.*

4. Bi-Monthly Email Blasts to Membership

Discussion: *ALSA News will be sent out this week as scheduled.*

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Organizational Management Proposal:

Discussion: *Tabled until the May meeting. In addition, Marilyn introduced further discussion regarding concern for the short length of terms of Committees and annual changes of committees. After BOD discussion, the majority felt no need for change was necessary.*

2. Sample Communication Plan:

Discussion: *Tabled until the May meeting.*

3. Regional Representatives for BOD:

Discussion: Trish proposed that starting in 2010, the BOD would be made up of a representative from each Region who would be elected by their region only. Trish will write up a formal proposal with all details to present to the BOD. The proposal will then be sent to Policy & Planning Committee for review and recommendations.

4. Expanded ALSA Show Number:

Discussion: An expanded ALSA Show Number for all animals was discussed for when the new database is released and in operation. This will be a new valued enhancement of our new database system. Trish made a motion to accept the concept of the Expanded ALSA Show Number to be implemented with the release of the new database as an additional benefit to ALSA members. Larry seconded. Motion carried with a majority vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Alpaca Committee: (liaison: Cathie)

Chair: Mary Reed

No Report

3. Election Committee: (liaison: Cathie)

Chair: Lougene Baird

The ALSA membership has responded vigorously to the Petition process for this year's General election. This year, the committee has e-mailed all members who supplied their e-mail address on the Petition to Nominate Form that their form had been received.

The Committee again urges each member to take an active part in the election process by verifying with the ALSA office that member information, including accuracy of mailing address, is correct in order to receive a ballot.

The day of record for this year's election is April 24. The ALSA office must receive all outstanding dues by this date for a label to be generated for ballot mailing and memberships must be in good standing.

4. Ethics Committee: (liaison: Trish)

Chair: Margaret Henry

No Report

5. Fiber Committee: (liaison: Julie)

Chair: Cindy Ruckman

No Report

6. Finance & Budget Committee: (liaison: Tom)

Chair: Tom Parsons

See Treasurer's Report above

7. Grand National Committee: (liaison: Julie)

Chair:

Discussion: *Cathie made a motion to accept Carolann and Malcolm Tallmon as Chairs of the Grand National Committee. Trish seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.*

8. Handbook Committee: *(liaison: Larry)*

Chair: Wally Baker

No Report

9. Judge's Committee: *(liaison: Cathie)*

Chair: Susan Tellez

Discussion: *It has been brought to the attention of the BOD that the acceptance of the resignation of the previous Judge's Committee Chair, Lavona Fercho, had not been acknowledged in the minutes. Sincere appreciation goes out to Lavona for her leadership of the Judge's Committee and the many positive changes that have occurred since her appointment to this committee.*

Susan Tellez was approved as Chair of the Judge's Committee by an email vote of the BOD.

Committee Report:

Halter: Deb Yeagle; Performance: Mike Haumschild; Fiber: Cindy Ruckman;
Instruction: Susan Tellez; Ethics: Penny Davidson; Alpaca: Mary Reed.

[A]. Here is my brief report for the BOD. No recommendations at this time.

[B.] We have 42 responses to remain as ACTIVE ALSA Judges and no name withdrawals. So far approximately 18 persons have said they need to attend a Clinic in '09

[C.] I believe it is imperative the committee review the actions of the committee the past 2-3 years, the changes made, and the Judges Certification Requirements, before we move on any major items.

Again ... Minutes from the BOD Jan 16, 2008 and March 11, 2008 will provide these.

[D.] Lavona is still forwarding materials and will ship boxes next week

10. Membership Committee: *(liaison: Larry)*

Chair:

No Report

10. Nomination Committee: *(liaison: Trish)*

Chair: Carolyn Myers

The election is moving along swiftly. At this point in time there are nine petitionees. They all have the correct amount of petitions for each candidate. There is a possibility of another petitionee, which would give us ten candidates.

11. Performance Committee *(liaison: Trish)*

Chair: Les Flinn

Trish reported that Les Flinn will continue to serve on the committee, but could not serve as Chair at this time. Trish made a motion to approve Steve Katazgian as the Chair of the Performance Committee. Larry seconded. Motion carried by a unanimous vote.

13. Policy & Planning Committee: (*liaison: Larry*)

Chair: Lora Crawford

Here are the two docs for bylaws and standing rules changes.

1. By-laws - Election Committee concerns two items.
 - a. Last year's BOD approved and asked me to write a bylaws change to allow Alaskan, Hawaiian and Canadian members to be attached to a Region for the purposes of election
 - b. Ballots may be faxed in to the CPA, this clarifies what has been done for several years.
2. Standing Rules changes do not have to be put to the membership for a vote. The Rules may be changed by a majority of BOD vote. This change allows for the membership to be informed via the Website rather than SHOWRING on election outcome. This is also a housekeeping item because this is how we broadcast election results in today's electronic way.

14. Promotion Committee: (*liaison: Ulin*)

Chair:

No Report

15. Protest Committee: (*liaison: Ulin*)

Chair:

No Report

16. Publications Committee: (*liaison: Trish*)

Chair: Gayle Woodsum

No Report

17. Regional Committee: (*liaison: Julie*)

Chair: Sharon Carrier

No Report

18. Show Management Committee: (*liaison: Marilyn*)

Chair: Bill Schultz

After much discussion the Show Management Committee is submitting the following recommendation to the ALSA Bod regarding contradictions and additions to rules contained in the 15th edition handbook.

Regarding combining Non-Breeders age divisions. Page 38 Item D-2. The current rule is as follows. 2. Non-Breeder. These divisions may be combined at Show Management's Discretion, if fewer than 3 llamas are in any age division.

Our committee believes that the benefits received by exhibitors, by allowing them the opportunity to show in their proper age division and then possibly compete for Grand and Reserve in that division far out weigh any advantage to be gained by combining ages. Therefore our proposal is no combining ages in non-breeders. This action will then be in agreement with Page 38 item C. Page 38 item D-2 will read as follows.

2. The following age divisions may not be combined in any way.

Discussion: After BOD discussion, Marilyn made a motion to accept the Committee's proposal to not allow Non-Breeder age divisions to be combined in any way. Trish seconded. Roll call vote: Trish, yes; Larry, abstain; Cathie, no; Ulin, no; Marilyn, yes. President broke the tie with a "no" vote. Motion was not carried.

Regarding combined wool divisions. Page 42 Item B-2

Our committee believes that both the Suri and Classic fiber divisions have very detailed and descriptive definitions as to their specific fiber type and phenotype. We believe that combining Suri and Classic fiber with the three other fiber divisions (Light, Medium, Heavy) would negate the purpose of creating a Suri and Classic division. The purpose of these specific defined divisions is to assure similar llamas are exhibited against similar phenotype. The SMC decision is to not allow combining Suri and Classic Llamas division. Light, Medium and heavy wool divisions may be combined in any fashion.

Therefore our recommendation to combining wool divisions will be; only Light, medium and heavy wool divisions maybe combined.

On page 42 item B-2 will read as follows.

2. At the show management's discretion the wool divisions of Light, Medium, and Heavy Wool may be combined.

Discussion: BOD discussion included:

1. Superintendents should have the option to offer classes needed for their areas.
 2. Classic is an optional class at this time.
 3. BOD expressed concern over implementing more rules at this time when shows need to appeal to all exhibitors.
 4. BOD did not accept this proposal.
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Regarding combining of ages in the Suri fiber division.

We recommend removing the verbiage on page 43 Sec. 1 item D and replacing it with following statement.

Page 43 Sec. 1 item D. Revised

D. Under no circumstance will ages within the division be combined and under no circumstance will males and females be combined.

Discussion: BOD asked that this issue be returned to the Committee for review. BOD feels that item C in the Handbook already states the request so a repeated statement in item D is not necessary. Can Item D just be removed from the Handbook?

Regarding the addition of verbiage to page 43 B-8 to include Classics.

Page 43 item-8 revised.

The Classic and Suri wool divisions will be judged prior to light, medium and heavy wool divisions. This is to permit Llamas that do not fit into the Suri or Classic wool divisions to be moved to the proper divisions.

Regarding Page 43 Section I. C-4. Revised age divisions.

Discussion: Discussion included the issue of allowing animals to be shown in the correct division if these particular classes are held prior to light, medium, and heavy wool divisions. Cathie made a motion to approve the Committee's proposal. Trish seconded. Motion carried by a majority vote.

The SMC is exploring ways to increase total numbers of llamas at Nationals and to provide more llamas the opportunity to be exhibited at regional. We feel this would be good time to change the yearling age divisions. We are aware that at the previous National Show the yearling age division class was the largest class. At the 2007 Grand National show 43% of the show were in the yearling class. At the 2008 Grand National Show 38% of the show were in the yearling class. So with this thought in mind, we feel ALSA will benefit from allowing the yearling class to be divided, therefore allowing more entries to both Regional and National shows. This age division should appeal to exhibitor that are hesitant about showing their younger yearling against yearlings that may be near twice their llama's age. This method of dividing the yearling class will allow more entries to participate, therefore increasing revenue for ALSA . We appreciate your consideration to the following age divisions.

Page 43 C-4 will read.

4. Age divisions
 - a. Juvenile-5-12 months
 - b. Junior Yearling -12-18 months
 - c. Senior Yearling-18 -24 months
 - d. Two Year olds-24-36 months
 - e. Adults-over 36 months

Discussion: *BOD recommends that this proposal be reviewed again by the Committee to even reach out further to additional divisions other than Yearling. i.e. Some adult Non-Breeder classes are very large and could also be divided for additional exhibitor benefit. It was suggested that it could be the Show Superintendent's discretion to configure the classes to whatever works best for his show.*

19. Website Committee: *(liaison: Marilyn)*

Chair: Mike Hoopengardner

No Report

20. Youth Committee: *(liaison: Marilyn)*

Chair: Michele Batt

Discussion: *Michele Batt was approved as Chair of the Youth Committee by email vote of the BOD.*

MEMBER'S LETTERS TO THE BOD:

MEETING ADJOURNED: Trish made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 p.m. EST.
Cathie seconded.

MINUTES APPROVED: April 16, 2009

Marilyn Nenni, Secretary