

Minutes of the MOPACA Board of Directors' Meeting, April 2nd 2015

Present: Liz Vahlkamp, Theresa Kaiser, Steve Rush, Audrey Kruse, Sheri Jacoby, Jeanette Campbell.

The meeting was called to order by Liz Vahlkamp at 8:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the meeting of 5th March were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Audrey reported that she had finally received the checks for the Education Seminar in January. She had also received batches of checks for Fiber U. She had issued two checks, one for Mary Licklider and another to a Fiber U participant for overpayment. The balance on hand was \$6062.62.

Committee Reports:

Fiber U: Liz Mitchko had been invited to join the conference call but was unable to do so because of bad weather and resulting power outage. She will be invited for next month. It was noted that the 500th unique person since the first Fiber U, had signed up for the event this year.

MOPACA Show: The show this year was very successful. Patty Hasselbring had done a tremendous job with publicity which had resulted in even greater general public participation than before and very positive feed back on social media from many farms that attended the show. Debbie Hoerl had rescinded her resignation as the Event Coordinator and was working on finalizing the show committee. The dates for next year's show had been penciled in for the first weekend in April. This later date was to avoid Easter weekend. Debbie had suggested that an e-blast be sent out to participants to try to find an Event Coordinator for 2017, so that they could shadow Debbie during this year.

Education Committee: Steve was asked to work with the Committee regarding the possibility of Dr. Andy Merriwether giving a seminar in August.

Publicity Committee: Nothing to report.

Old Business:

Hiring a new Administrative Assistant: An e-blast had been sent out regarding the vacant position. The only applicant was Gwen Wolff. Liz pointed out that Gwen knows a great deal about the organization and its history. She gets on well with Mary Licklider, the former Administrative Assistant which will ease the transition, and is knowledgeable about the website software. A vote was taken and it was agreed to offer the position to Gwen.

Veterinary School Scholarships: Liz reported that there had been 16 responses to the survey regarding the member use of Veterinary Schools and whether the scholarships should be continued. The most used schools were Kansas State and the University of Missouri.

Respondents were in favor of continuing scholarships. There was lengthy discussion on how we should proceed. There was consensus that scholarships should be continued in some form but concentrated on Kansas and Missouri. Several people felt it would be beneficial to invite students to MOPACA seminars if they had a veterinary theme. Another suggestion was to pay for students to go to seminars being held at individual farms. Concern was expressed about how these proposals would be handled administratively. It was decided that this topic should be given further thought and discussion.

Website: There had been issues with the website before the Show one of which was too much traffic on the site and exceeding our contract limit. We need to have a contract in place for website hosting either with the present provider or a different company. Gwen Wolff provided details of another company run by Brian Hansen, and the costs for hosting our website. Steve provided information from the Selle Design Group. It was agreed that we should ask Gwen to contact both companies and get comparative figures for the various aspects of hosting the MOPACA site. It was also agreed that the Mid West Alpaca Farms website, which had been replaced by the arrangement with Openherd, should be discontinued.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Campbell
MOPACA Secretary