

Minutes of the MOPACA Board of Director's Meeting, February 15th 2015

Present: Liz Vahlkamp, Teresa Kaiser, Steve Rush, Audrey Kruse, Sheri Jacoby, Jeanette Campbell, Debbie Hoerl (for part of the meeting).

The meeting was called to order by Liz Vahlkamp at 8:02 pm.

Liz informed the meeting that in recent years the Junior Board Member had been taking the meeting minutes. She requested that, as per the By-Laws, the Secretary should resume this duty with the Board Member, currently Steve Rush, as back up.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes of the December 2014 and January 2015 were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Audrey reported that she had paid all the bills for the Winter Seminar but to date had not received any checks for payment. She was receiving checks from vendors for Fiber 'U'. Also two half year memberships had been received. Steve raised the question of how line item figures in the budget were determined. Liz explained that it was part of the President's duty to present the budget for approval but in the absence of a President, Senior Board Member Brian Willsey, who had served as president in the past, prepared the present budget. This did not change greatly from one year to the next. There was discussion on the issue of bills being paid in 2015 for 2014 expenses and how that might impact the estimated expenses for the current year.

Committee Reports: These had been given at the Winter General Meeting at the Seminar.

Website Committee: Nothing to report.

Marketing Committee: Radio advertising had been carried out as planned.

Education Committee: Barbara Willsey had sent a report which Liz would send out to the meeting.

MOPACA Show: Debbie reported that everything for the show was on schedule. Sponsors and vendors were on track. The contract for catering had been signed. Registrations were coming in. Patty would be sending more e-blasts for the Photo Competition, Fiber Arts and Fleece. The Show Committee was sponsoring the show bags this year. Ed and Marta Howe were doing well with volunteers and there were several farms that wanted to help on Thursday before the show. Debbie offered to answer any questions by email.

Old Business:

Scholarships: In 2014 scholarships to four universities, University of Missouri, Kansas State University, Oklahoma State University, and University of Illinois, had been budgeted but only one paid. Audrey reported that there had been five year contracts with these universities. For four of them, 2013 had been the last year. For the University of Illinois, 2015 would be the last year. There was discussion on what the money was used for and what information should be required from the recipients. Audrey agreed to look through the file that contained information on this. Further discussion was tabled for the next meeting.

By-Laws: Liz indicated that for a number of years the organization had been operating under a system where only Board members could vote. On reading the By-Laws the previous Board

discovered that there was no stipulation that only Board members could vote and had agreed that officers should be included in Board meetings and given the option to vote. There was discussion on the structure of the Board and its officers and whether this was the best arrangement. Further discussion was tabled for the next meeting so that everyone had the opportunity to study the present By-Laws. These are available on the MOPACA website.

New Business:

Facebook: Patty Hasselbring runs the MOPACA Facebook page. Any member can post to the site and Patty is responsible for posting on the main page. The question was raised as to whether this was another way to communicate with members. Also, Patty had an educational event coming up on her farm and wanted to know if this could be put on the page. Liz asked what guidelines should be used for this. It was felt that only members could post and it had to be alpaca related. It could be used to announce events on member farms but there should be no marketing of alpacas or products. The Board might want to use it for discussion items with members. Liz agreed to compile and distribute the guidelines.

Administrative Assistant: Mary Lickliger is currently the paid Administrative Assistant for MOPACA. She intended to step down after the show. A formal request would be sent out to see if anyone was interested in the position.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Campbell
MOPACA Secretary.