

Minutes of Empire Alpaca Association Annual Meeting 20 October 2007

Present:

John Askew	Sunset Ridge Alpacas
Chris Gilman	Riverside Alpacas
Richard Jonassen	Alpacas of Rain Dance Pond
Steve McCarthy	Spruce Ridge Farm
Ann Merriwether	Nyala Farm Alpacas
Susan Wissick	Oh, My! Alpacas
Sue Zelazny	Andes Dandies, LLC

Additional members of Empire Alpaca Association to constitute a quorum.

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM

- Steve McCarthy thanked Scott and Melissa Young as well as all of the volunteers for their efforts in making the 2007 Extravaganza a success. He also thanked outgoing Board members Richard Jonassen and Susan Wissick for their service on the Board.
- John Askew announced the election results and introduced the new Board members Jeannine Anderson and Cindy Cuykedall. Steve McCarthy was re-elected.
- John Askew announced the results of the By-Law Amendment Vote. All Amendments were passed by the membership.
- Chris Gilman reviewed the previous year's budget and distributed the proposed budget for the coming year. Katie Zelazny motioned to accept the Budget. Bill Strong seconded the motion. Budget passed on voice vote. Chris reported that in order to comply with the By-Law requirement for a Certified Financial Statement and audit of the Association's financial records for 2006 was underway.
- Steve McCarthy described recent Marketing efforts including;
 - 1) A new trifold brochure that is available to members
 - 2) Plans to buy AOBA lead lists and mail brochures

3) Television ads for the Extravaganza

- Steve McCarthy described upcoming educational events including the Wet Lab Neonatal planned for the spring Symposium. He asked members to donate dead cria if possible and described an initiative to create a working cria model. After discussions regarding space limitations Katie Zelazny motioned that if space limitations were necessary the Wet Lab be limited to one member per farm and Empire members have priority. Diane Weaver seconded the motion. Motion passed by voice vote.
- John Askew reported that membership dropped for the first time from 261 to 230 members. Reduction in the Extravaganza discount was cited as a possible contributor to the decline. John also updated the change over to a single renewal date and
- Sue Zelazny asked the membership to provide Newsletter article or ideas for articles to her. There was a suggestion for more “Alpaca Tips” articles.
- Questions from the membership
 - Jack Dibbs asked why the audit was needed. Steve described the ByLaw requirement for a Certified audit and his intent to ask for a By-Law amendment to remove this requirement in the future. The \$10K required to provide the Certified audit could then be used for other purposes.
- Steve thanked everyone for taking the time to participate in the Association's Annual Meeting.
- Adjourned at 6:37PM