Government and Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom)

Meeting Minutes
January 18, 2017

Meeting: Conference Call—January 18, 2017, 7:30 p.m. EST

Members: Deborah Bailey
Lynn Boak (absent)
Joan Clappier
Dr. Pat Long (absent)
Brion Smoke

Board Liaison: Bonnie Potter

Staff Representative: Dan Huntley

Meeting called to order at 7:32 p.m. EST.

1.0 Meeting Opening

1.1 AOA News of Importance (Huntley, Potter):

- Membership renewals are underway. Reminder to committee members… you must be an AOA member to serve on a committee.
- Bud Synhorst became our new Executive Director on December 5, 2017. He has a great track record of achieving strong results in member based organizations. He brings a diverse background of non-profit and for-profit experience.
- The staff is working on the national show. Walking fleece competition will be included. A few affiliates have tried it and it has been very popular, so it is now included in the 2017 AOA Show Rules Handbook. In Walking Fleece, every entrant gets feedback about the alpaca.
- Breed Standards: The Suri Network has updated their suri standard. AOA has heard a desire from members to have a breed standard like other livestock organizations. It is not desirable to have two different standards for suris, Suri Network vs. AOA, so AOA is looking to adopt the Suri Network Suri Breed Standard. Comments and votes will be solicited from the AOA membership.
- Soliciting suggestions for the Shining Star Award.
- AOA is looking for auction items for national show. Smaller value items will be good for the silent auction and large ticket items can be sold at the live auction during the gala dinner.
- A lot of software modification work has been done and is being done. By the end of 2016 the membership renewal was ready to give voting rights to paid members. The search is on for an online voting vendor to handle the switch to online voting.
- The AOA National Fleece Show will be in Sacramento this summer.

2.0 Health Related

2.1 USAHA Alerts (Potter):

- Since it is winter there is not much happening.
- A case of WNV was found in OK in a horse in December.
- EHV has been found in horses in KY, LA, and CA.

2.2 Report from USAHA Meeting (Potter):

Bonnie forwarded Pat's meeting notes to GIRCom members on October 24.

Pat is Vice-Chair of the committee on Infectious Diseases of Cattle, Bison, and Camelids, which gives our industry more visibility and better inclusion. The cattle industry is impressed with how we have controlled BVDV. It is still a big problem in cattle industry. As previously reported, an infestation of the New World screw worm has been found in the FL Keys. Work is being done to try to control it to prevent spread.

3.0 Government Related

3.1 FDA Water Soluble Antibiotic Rule Change (Potter):

Some antibiotics used in livestock water that have been OTC will now require prescription. Pat Long previously told Potter that the change shouldn't be a problem for the alpaca industry.

4.0 New Business:

4.1 Estate Planning/Preparedness (Smoker):

- Brion sent out a draft document. Bonnie made additions and sent that version to the committee.
- GIRCom members like the document.
- Brion has a friend who will set it up for us so that members can fill in their information online. He said it will also be easy to change/add things later in that format.

5.0 Approval of Minutes (Clappier):

5.1 Approval of the minutes of 10/19/2016. Motion was made by Deborah and seconded by Brion. Motion passed.

6.0 Meeting Wrap:

6.1 Review Action Items (Potter):

Brion will send re-formatted doc to Bonnie who will send it to the committee.

6.2 Next Meeting (Potter):

Third Wednesday, February 15, 2017.

6.3 Adjournment (Potter):

Motion to adjourn was made by Joan, seconded by Deborah. Motion passed. Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m. EST.