Fiber & Fiber Products Committee Minutes
1 Jul 2019 – Conference Call 7pm EDT

Committee Members:

B-J Ellis
Elizabeth Taylor
Stacie Chavez
Karen Ball
Margie Ault, AOA Staff Liaison
Charlene Schmid
Denise Coonley
Wini Labrecque
Norm Johnson
Ruth Fuqua
Angela Nosal, AOA Event Coordinator
Clarissa Wisner

Absent: Wini; Stacie; Margie; Charlene

Approve Minutes of JUN 2019 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the JUN 2019 minutes was made by B-J and seconded by Ruth.

AOA Member MarketPlace

Denise provided an update. We are well positioned for the event; Ruth has been a great help and will bring infrastructure. A number of tables have been requested; Norm will bring extra grids in case they are required. Looking forward to a great display at the event.

Why Alpaca Poster?

Karen provided feedback from the AOA Board of Directors review of the proposed poster. There were questions regarding who the audience was; more descriptors, to discuss the blending of fibers, question on Humane; Is there another way to define wicking; the suggestion was to use Moisture Wicking; consider using pellets as a replacement for poop;

Clarissa, Karen and Natalie will work to an updated version of the document.

Fiber Testing

There is no money in the 2019 budget to support the fiber tests that were proposed. Bud requested that we provide the tests we want to perform and a supporting expense proposal for the 2020 budget; We need to have our submissions to Bud by middle of Sept 2019;

- Thermal Testing
- Advance the Anti-microbial testing; many feel we need more indepth testing to expand the testing that was completed in 2018;

As part of this discussion, the committee members feel we need to consider some fund raising activities to support the needs of the committee (fiber testing; fiber acquisition for the natural fiber display, etc).

Natural Fiber Extravaganza;

2019

- 126 People Registered
- Workshop registration is going well.
- Meet and Greet is planned
- Website is being updated
- 32 Vendors plan to attend
- Yoga and Selfie sessions are planned.

Student Design

- 6 of the 8 finalists are planning to attend.
- Will be spending time with Ruth and her farm.

Natural Fiber Display;

- Wini provided an update via email to everyone;
- She is working with Karen to help move this effort forward. Elizabeth has provided sample fibers; Wini will be spinning them and Elizabeth will knit them with her knitting machines. This is an important endeavor. Wini, Elizabeth and Karen; your valuable time and commitment to this effort is greatly appreciated.

Board Update:

- Karen had nothing other than the why alpaca poster feedback to share. The board is looking forward to the NFE.

Fiber as a Business;

- A new version of the document was distributed. Everyone is encouraged to provide feedback.

Fiber Committee

Norm shared that he felt that other than the Student Design Effort, the committee's projects are providing little value to the AOA Membership; In discussing this with Bud, it was requested that we consider What could be done to help get an understanding of alpacas that exist but are not registered as well as help fiber enthusiasts.

- Consider a registry for "pets";
- Consider a temp registry – PYGORA goat.

- Consider the ILR/ALSA registry as an example;
- Look at the cat world where LITTERS are registered
- For fiber enthusiasts
    - Reorganize the website to have a fiber section; Open to ANYONE;
    - Best Practices; key resources; Links to existing information (utube video, documents, etc;

Meeting Closure

Adjourned 8 pm EST.

Next meeting to be held by conference call **on 5 AUG 2019**. 7PM EDST; 6pm CDST; 5pm MDST; 4pm PDST