Membership Committee (MemberCom) MINUTES

Committee Members: Jim Beck
Ruth Anne Goss
Michelle Kutzler
Bonnie Potter, Chair

Meeting: **Conference Call – Wednesday, May 10, 2017**
7 PM Eastern Time/4 PM Pacific Time

1.0 Meeting Opening at 4:02 PM Pacific Time.

1.1 AOA News of Importance: Potter briefly discussed the upcoming election, the National Fleece Conference, the status of AI/ET policies and forms, the Senator Flake issue and response, and the ad in USA Today.

2.0 Unfinished Business

2.1 ILR Camelid Companion Certification (CCC). Potter reported that the proposed Ground Rules were approved by both the AOA and ILR Boards of Directors. The next step is for the AOA Attorney to draft an agreement for both organizations to sign to establish the AOA program. Kutzler suggested that the possibility of having "Certification" or "BVDV negative" or "Color or Supreme Champion" added to the registration certificate might be a "*value added*" notation to consider for an additional fee, much like the AKC does with titles that are earned. Potter will pass suggestion to the AOA Board.

3.0 New Business

3.1 AOA Youth Membership. The possibility of developing a youth membership was discussed. Other llama/alpaca organizations have youth memberships including ILR, LANA and ALSA. The key is having incentives for youth to join. Kutzler provided links to the various programs that were discussed. ILR has the "Pot of Gold" competition which encourages involvement to get points. ILR enrolls youth members in their show division. Judges evaluate animals but youth handlers receive points. LANA has a Citizenship Medallion. ALSA offers scholarships for high school seniors planning to attend college. Getting more youth involved will probably get more parents involved. Questions were raised about how marketing is done to reach more youth, and how successful the youth efforts have been. Potter will try to get additional information from ILR. Having youth more involved in our shows would be a positive step.

4.0 Approval of Minutes

4.1 Minutes of 4/12/17 meeting. Kutzler made a motion to approve the minutes as written; Goss seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4.0 Meeting Wrap

4.1 Review Action Items: Potter reviewed action items.

4.2 Next Meeting Date: Second Wednesday, June 14, 2017 at 4 PM Pacific/7 PM Eastern.

3.3 Adjournment: meeting adjourned at 5:00 PM Pacific Time.

Minutes submitted by Bonnie Potter.