# Board Meeting Minutes

**Board of Directors:**

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|---|---|---|
| Mike Vigus, President | Joe Crocco, Treasurer | Patty Hasselbring, Director |
| Jeff Williamson, Vice President | Karen Ball, Director | Andy Merriwether, Director |
| Steve Aitchison, Secretary | Vern Butler, Director | Laurel Shouvlin, Director |

**Executive Director:** Bud Synhorst

**Guest:** Amanda VandenBosch

**Meeting:** Conference Call - **May 28, 2019**
6:00 PM Eastern Time

Meeting called to order by Vigus at 6:03 PM.

**1.0 Guest Presentation** VandenBosch

Amanda VandenBosch was invited to the meeting to provide information about her new fleece show model that has been presented at various alpaca events and is currently being reviewed by the ad hoc Fleece Show Committee. The Board also had questions regarding AOA's use of her model since it is copyrighted. All agreed that if the model were to be adopted, a formal agreement between Amanda and AOA would have to be created. The Board agreed that the ad hoc Fleece Show Committee should continue to evaluate it and any other proposed changes to AOA Fleece Shows. Presentation concluded at 6:53 PM

**2.0 Ratify Email Votes** Vigus

**2.1** Motion by Merriwether, second by Williamson to approve the President's message for the summer magazine. Motion passed 9-0.

Shouvlin moved to ratify, Hasselbring seconded. Approved 9-0.

**3.0 Financial Reports** Crocco

**3.1** April Financial Report

INCOME (year-to-date): Registrations down $50,775, AOA Halter Show down $51,253 in large part due to auction sales being lower, Show System down $1,905, Advertising down $26,367, Membership up $12,535. Overall income is down ~13% at $121,675.

EXPENSES (year-to-date): Registry under by $9,717, AOA Halter Show under by $39,212, Marketing/PR under by $9,083, Employee expenses under by $2,908. Overall expenses are under by $70,955.

NET (year-to-date): Net income for April is -$50,720.

**4.0 Executive Session - James G. King Award Discussion** Crocco

Williamson moved to enter into executive session, Hasselbring seconded. Approved 9-0.

Vigus moved to accept the decision made during the executive session, Merriwether seconded. Approved 9-0.

**5.0 Old Business**

**5.1** Technology Committee Appointment Aitchison/Williamson

Applications were received for volunteers to join the ad hoc Technology Committee. Aitchison, Williamson, and Synhorst will continue to review the submissions and report back to the Board in June's meeting.

**5.2** Other Old Business Vigus

A Standards of Care document was produced by Shouvlin and will be added to the efforts being worked on by the Government and Industry Relations Committee (GIRCom).

**6.0 New Business**

**6.1** Discuss increasing animal registration Board

Board discussed the decrease in the number of animal registrations, including impact of policy changes on membership and other reasons.

**6.2** JTCC Supplement Williamson

Shouvlin moved to accept the recommendation made by the Judge Training and Certification Committee (JTCC) to change the apprenticeship requirements for evaluating suris due to the lower number of suris entered in halter shows. Hasselbring seconded; motion passed 9-0.

**6.3** Other New Business Vigus

The Board discussed an incident which occurred at the National Halter Show. The Board was satisfied with how the incident was handled by the AOA staff.

**7.0 Executive Director Update** Synhorst

**7.1** Dashboard review

**8.0 Committee and Other Reports**

**8.1** Government and Industry Relations Committee Merriwether

Working on drafting a response to the Bureau of Land Management's possible ban of alpacas/llamas from national parks and setting and it creating a bad precedence.

**8.2** Judge Training and Certification Committee Williamson

The committee discussed the upcoming AOA Judge testing and training event in December. The committee also spent time discussing Amanda VandenBosch's fleece show model.

**8.3** Judges Advisory Committee Aitchison

No meeting, no report.

**8.4** Show Rules Committee Shouvlin

No meeting, no report.

**8.5** Fiber and Fiber Products Committee Ball

Member Denise Cooley will lead the AOA MarketPlace for the 2019 Fiber Extravaganza. Wini Labreque will handle spinning up the fiber sample presentations that will demonstrate the assets of different natural fibers, including alpaca and alpaca blends. The "Why Alpaca Poster?" is ready to present to the Board.

**8.6** Alternative Products Committee Butler

The committee is set to create a database of information on state-to-state information on processing alpacas to replace and update the one created by the Alpaca Coalition of America's in 2015.

**8.7** Membership Committee — Hasselbring

The Membership Gift Certificates have been designed and are nearly ready to share with the members. The committee discussed aligning membership levels according to major business models in the alpaca industry. Hasselbring presented the committee's plan for 2019. Shouvlin moved to accept the committee's 2019 Plan, Ball seconded. Approved 9-0.

**8.8** Affiliates Council — Vigus

Thirteen representatives of affiliates were present. Feedback from the shows was discussed and the affiliates requested a handbook or guide for them to run their organizations and a possible "town hall" at the Nashville show for affiliate board members to discuss.

**8.9** Ad hoc Fleece Show Committee — Shouvlin

No meeting, no report. The committee will be meeting June 5th.

## 9.0 Meeting Wrap

**9.1** Contact the Board Update — Vigus

No new contacts to the Board.

**9.2** Review Action Items — Williamson

**9.3** Next Meeting — **Tuesday, June 25, 2019, 6:00 PM via conference call** — Vigus

**9.4** Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 9:19 PM Eastern. — Vigus