Membership Committee Minutes

August 10, 2020

Committee Members: Sarah Donohoe
Elden Harms - absent
Michelle Kutzler – absent; input provided in advance
Kathy Brown
Patty Hasselbring, Chair and Board Liaison

Staff: De Monson
Alyssa Winterfield
Robin Gifford, Executive Director

1.0 Meeting Opening

1.1 News of Importance from AOA

- Gearing up for NAFD – so far 43 farms registered for NAFD: 9/26-9/27
- Testing of antibacterial qualities of alpaca fiber testing is in process
- Contract negotiations for thermal testing underway
- Samples to New Zealand for EPDs are taking some time to arrive in New Zealand.

2.0 Projects

2.1 Veterinary Assistance for Members

Background: Purpose of project is to develop mechanism for members to have access to after hours and weekend vet consultation if they aren't able to get in touch with their own vet. We have list of university vet programs and emails have been sent.

- Status Report – De: Ten have responded so far. Positive response from most. De will send follow up reminder to those that have not responded. A couple of emails bounced; Patty and Sarah will check those out.
- Next meeting we will review results so that information can be prepared for posting online for members.

2.2 Contacts with New Members –

- July list is ready to go.

2.2 Youth Involvement

Two overarching motivators for youth: potential for scholarships and hands-on work with alpacas.

Plan: Availability of youth scholarships with criteria that includes working with alpacas. Youth Membership

Status Report:

- Guidlelines, application process are completed

- Funding – Brainstorming has begun. Discussion of Michelle's ideas. Robin shared information about working with a foundation where people can donate and receive tax benefits.
- Once funding is secured the concept can go forward for implementation.
- Recommendation for a youth membership will be prepared for Board review and approval. Patty will draft and send out to committee for feedback with goal of getting to Board by meeting on 8/24.

3.0 Membership Levels and Benefits

3.1 Benefits and levels – survey membership before December. How would members classify their farms and what would they like as benefits. Need stats and data that apply for all different types of business models. Robin will draft membership survey. Patty will draft something about previous survey.

Discussed four general business models. We will look at the quadrants and then slot in the AOA benefits that would be attractive for each model.

4.0 Minutes for Approval

4.1 Minutes from 6/08/20 and 7/13/20 - Sarah moved Kathy seconded. Michelle voted by email in advance of meeting. Motion passed.

4.2 Minutes from past meetings

5.0 Meeting Wrap

Next Meeting Date: Monday, Sept 14, 2020, at 3 PM PST/6 PM EST
Meeting adjourned at 6:15 central time.