Fiber and Fiber Products Committee Agenda
March 1, 2021
7:00pm Eastern, 6:00pm Central, 5:00pm Mountain, 4:00pm Pacific

Committee Members:
BJ Ellis
Alyssa Winterfeld (AOA Staff Liaison)
Ruth Fuqua
Karen Ball
Wini Labrecque (BOD Liaison)
Elizabeth Taylor
Elaine Gerber
Charlene Schmid (Committee Chair)
Eleni Roberts (Secretary)
Clarissa Wisner
Dana Rhodes

1.0 Action: Call to order 4:02

2.0 Action: February Meeting Minutes Approval Wini suggests removing links to the google drive prior to posting.
Remove name from new member for Privacy

Moves to accept the minutes as changed Clarissa
Karen 2nd.

3.0 Update: AOA Board Update, Wini

No updates national show in 17 days.

5.0 Discussion: Fiber Extravaganza, Alyssa
a. Key-note speaker ideas? Reached out to D Robsin, hope to see if she will present virtually. Need someone as back up – want to advertise for it at the National show.
Open registration after nationals for spin offs and registrations.
b. Fiber Arts and Skeins publicity point person? – alpacagrams, FB posts Hope to stir up more participation and interest. Karen

Ball gathered a bit of information after the 2019 show, Karen will look for that feedback and try to get it to Alyssa. Cindy Marrow.

c. Should the sub-committee want to try a new competition, what would the process be for a waiver submission? Point person? Exhibition class require a waiver Margi and Alyssa
d. Question from BJ: Now for a question from Fiber Arts and Skeins about costs of running judges and ribbons for skeins and fiber arts? If we run early-bird prices, can we clear enough to cover judge and ribbons? If we discuss a different form of placement, what is the ribbon budget currently, just for Skeins and Fiber arts? If we know what the ribbon budget is, ribbons are part of the larger show order. Potential for a different winning than a ribbon, this might be an appropriate place to do something different. Vendors donate gift cards to add to "sponsor a category" Alyssa would have access to past ribbon orders.
e. Incentive for the mills, advertising space.

6.0 Discussion: Work Groups--Google Drive

1. Zoom Breakouts—Next steps check in and move forward 15 min.
2. Group report-out; next steps
    a. Student Design Have a display area focused on student design so people can see what that is about. 4-6 past winners to display boards –Collect materials to donate next year. Some schools are doing their own thing this year. Some using our product in Capstone.
    b. Logo/US Grown working on securing the American made mock up and guidelines with where and when
    c. Fiber Arts and Skeins three large high end yarn stores in town. Talk with them or advertising or get interest in participation and sponsorship for winners—entice to bring them in.
    d. EPD Explained
    e. AOA Resource Review Declare completed

7.0 Discussion/Action: Develop a US Fiber Standard

Charlene created a spreadsheet containing the information that was submitted by the members throughout the month on other types of fiber that is graded, sorted and named. There was some discussion on blended yarns, but it was decided that for our purposes we would focus on alpaca only. The reason we need to adopt a standard is so that everyone is on the same page when it comes to what type of fleece we are looking at. It was also discussed whether the grade, micron count, and a name for each type should be adopted. Everyone felt that the most important thing is the micron range. SD is not taken into consideration, but it might be important since the wool and mohair community does consider this as part of the sorting. Suri needs to be included before sending it off for the board discussion. Wini will contact someone in the Suri community to get that information. Staple length was also a discussed – maybe a side note, not to be considered part of a standard.

a. Review collected information, and side-by-side crosswalk document
b. Determine if we have a recommendation to move to the BOD

Charlene will write up a summary of our discussion that will provide an update to the board.

8.0 Open Discussion All

1. BJ ---the Gov't Committee made a contact with Congress-person regarding commodities about 2010. Brian Smoker would have Government person named in minutes for Gov't Committee.

Wini will bring a summary to the committee April.

Move to end meeting at 5:18 Clarissa
Second by BJ.