Fiber & Fiber Products Committee Minutes
5 Nov 2018 – Conference Call 7pm EDT

Committee Members:

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

Absent: Clarissa; Margie; Bud

Meeting Opening: Approve Minutes of Oct 2018 Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes of the Oct 2018 minutes was made by Stacie and seconded by Ruth.

Old Business.

New Project: Why Alpaca?

Clarissa provided a draft of the why Alpaca poster.

- The basic points of the poster were acceptable;
- We need to consider both breed types in our display.
- The fan of colors works well; how many color variations are there today??
- Text lettering needs to be readable by all; e.g. Font selection;
- Do we have too many words and too few pictures?
- The feeling was a strong focus on YARN vs the fiber;
- Eco friendly message was well done;
- A great start with the draft;

Fiber Testing

We discussed the results of the anti-microbial test. The testing facility was very pleased that we provided raw fiber for the test; There was the question regarding the 3pt difference for the fleece types; Norm will follow up;

We agreed to follow the CLO value test recommended by NCSU; This was the same test AOBA had done several years ago; Norm will follow up on the specification required to have comparable results for Knitted and Felted fabric to allow us to compare to the test performed on the woven fabric;

Natural Fiber Extravaganza;

2019

- No significant change since our Oct Meeting;
- Rebecca Burgess is being secured as the keynote speaker; Details are being finalized and communication will be sent when this is finalized ; it may be after Jan 1 when this is complete based on Rebecca's schedule;
- The work for a call for instructors is being finalized and will be communicated when complete.
- If committee members have instructors in mind, please submit them to the office;
- A list of instructors from many fiber festivals is being created and will be used to solicit potential instructors.
- Keep promoting this event to the fiber enthusiast.

Instructor Compensation

Norm brought up the discussion point of potentially having a compensation plan for instructors; We are aware that SAFF and Estes Park Wool Market have compensation plans.

We agreed that It should not cost an instructor to teach;

Compensating instructors will have a cost to the NFE; We need to determine if it is a cost or an investment? Many people attend events and participate in class offerings based on the instructors that are available.

Convergence is requesting instructors; We can learn a lot from all of the other events, we don't necessarily need to re-create the wheel.

New Project

Natural Fiber Display;

- The committee agreed that we need to continue to build on the natural fiber display that was started in 2018;
- Elizabeth sent a video to everyone to show an example of one that had been put together;
- The display from the VT wool festival is not available for lease for the 2019 NFE.
- Norm created and distributed a list of Natural fiber sources and we will all volunteer to help gather the information for each fiber.
- Suggestions for each fiber display (following the shared video) Raw / washed state; ~~Top/roving state;~~ Spun yarn samples; a knitted swatch (time consuming effort); This display will be built over time

During the discussion of the display, there were discussions related to having a display of different grades of alpaca fiber; possibly the good and the ugly(the grade one histogram to grade 4/5/6 blanket due to hair or VM);

Board Update:
Nothing to report from the Board.

Meeting Closure

Adjourned 8:05 pm EST. Charlene Motioned; BJ seconded

Next meeting to be held by conference call **on 3 DEC 2018**. 7PM EST; 6pm CST; 5pm MST; 4pm PST;