



Greater Appalachian Llama and Alpaca Association

Board of Directors at the 2012 GALA conference
November 8, 2012
Convened at 5:40 p.m.

In attendance: Terry Beal, Miranda Brown, Deb Elias, Tracey Gaul, Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Paul Hastings, Chuck Leach, Carol Millard, Carol Reigh. Invited to join the meeting was Marc Page, a GALA past president.

1. **Conference Update:** Kelly Ralph, Conference Chair, reported that GALA surpassed its contractual hotel minimum and 123 people had registered for the conference.

2. **Treasurer's Report:**

GALA did not incur any penalty for its late tax filing.

Auditor's recommendations:

A two signature check signing policy— Terry Beal made a motion to require two signatures on all checks. The signatures will be those of the Treasurer and one of the GALA Officers (Pres., VP or Sec.). Seconded by Miranda Brown and the motion carried.

Fiscal Year and Membership year to coincide—see Membership Report by Miranda Brown.

Have a clear Policy of how the lifetime membership dues are dispersed—Carol Millard moved and Terry Beal seconded and the board approved that the lifetime dues liability account be reduced each year for each lifetime dues membership by \$25 no matter how much the regular annual membership dues is at the time and to establish the following Lifetime Dues Policy:

- i. Lifetime Dues Membership is open to those who meet the Regular Membership criteria and choose to pay a Lifetime Dues Membership fee to GALA at a single payment of \$500.
- ii. Membership can be an individual, family, farm, or organization. (also known as an entity)
- iii. There is one vote per membership and one set of benefits for that entity. (one newsletter, one directory, all parties as part of the membership entity at the time of payment has membership benefits of a regular member)
- iv. The Lifetime Dues Member is responsible for notifying GALA of any changes in status or address by email or letter.

v. Individual and Organization are each considered one entity. If there is a death of the individual or dissolution of the organization, then the membership is void.

vi. The Family and Farm can contain multiple members. If there is a divorce within the entity, the entity needs to let GALA know who will continue to be the Lifetime Dues Member. Verification of the change needs to be by letter from all parties involved, from legal counsel or a copy of statement of divorce decree. Children that had been a part of the family or farm that reach the age of 18 years or older, need to have their own membership to receive benefits.

vii. Lifetime Dues Membership cannot be passed to other entities. It must remain with at least one party of the original entity.

Annual Financial Audit: Terry Beal made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report and to file for an annual accounting audit (at min. an accounting review) in 2013 with the same accountant performing the service so he can fix anything that may not be in sync with the 2012 year. The motion seconded by Jane Hamilton-Merritt and passed by the board.

3. Membership Report:

Miranda Brown reported membership is down from 269 in 2011-2012 to 235 this year. She is moving forward with making the calendar year and the fiscal year coincide. She will send out invoices the end of November. Those members who already paid their dues for 2012-2013 will receive a \$20 credit and will only owe an additional \$20 for 2013 (July to December). With this change, the Directory will now come out in March.

4. Elections Report: Jane Hamilton-Merritt, nominations/election committee chair, thanked her committee for its work in nominating, vetting, and selection process for the 2012 BOD Election Slate.

5. Re organization of the board: it was decided to re organize when the new board members were able to participate in January 2013.

6. Old Business:

a. Terry Beal moved to accept the September 2012 minutes as amended. Jane Hamilton-Merritt seconded and all were in favor. (The one amended change was under old business item #3—changed language is underlined—"Deb Elias contacted Sara Davis and said that Kyrs Swan would finish improving resolution of the digital GALA logo."

b. Charter Committees: Terry Beal's volunteer form for charter committees were placed in each conference notebook so everyone would be ready for his presentation at the Annual meeting on the proposed committees (Web/social media, Newsletter, Financial, and Membership)

c. Conference Chairs: Encourage members at the Annual meeting to attend Anita Collin's session on putting together a conference.

d. Library Report: Deb Elias read a report from GALA librarian, Cynthia Rossi, (see Attached report) The Board approved \$200 for library funding.

e. Website Liaison: Miranda Brown has served as the current Website Liaison for the BOD. With her departure from the BOD, it is recommended that a new BOD member take over for the 2013 year to provide Lyle Rush with the BOD updates (i.e. minutes, current GALA events, etc.) to post to the GALA website. This will be addressed at the next BOD meeting.

7. Agenda for Annual Meeting: Agenda was reviewed and several items added—Library report by Deb Elias, Jane Hamilton-Merritt will introduce the new newsletter editor, Joanne Beckmann and thank the resigning Editor Alexa Metrick. Hilary Ware will discuss medical research recommendations.

8. BOD Vacancy: Ericka Cadreact resignation has left a vacancy for the last two months of 2012. It was decided to allow the vacancy to lapse since there are no additional meetings until the new directors take office after January 1, 2013.

Next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 9, 2013.

Jane Hamilton-Merritt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Reigh and Miranda Brown.

On October 2, 2012, Carol Reigh made a motion to appoint Joanne Beckmann as the newsletter editor. Jane Hamilton-Merritt seconded it and a vote was taken via email. All approved.