



Greater Appalachian Llama and Alpaca Association

Board of Directors Teleconference
Wednesday July 10, 2013
Convened at 7:02 p.m

In Attendance: Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Chuck Leach, Terry Beal, Sandy Page, Deb Elias, Carol Reigh, Carol Millard, Don Hines, Kelly Ralph, Tracey Gaul.

Minute Approval: Carol Millard made a motion to accept the May 1, 2013 minutes as posted with a second by Terry Beal. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee: The Finance Committee has established a budget and timeline and suggested the organization do some strategic planning for future budgets. The Finance Committee has provided its proposed timeline and has met all those benchmarks. Financial statements for the first half of the year will be presented at the September BOD meeting. A motion was made by Carol Reigh and seconded by Deb Elias to approve the budget as presented with the understanding that the month to month figures are estimates. Motion carried.

Library Report: Deb Elias made a motion to send \$100 to Cynthia Rossi, the librarian, to have the rest of the VHS videos converted to DVDs. Carol Reigh seconded it and the motion carried. Carol Reigh made a motion to re-instate the list of library materials to the directory. Carol Millard made a motion to table the motion until the September meeting and Sandy Page seconded it. Motion carried.

Photo Calendar Report: Don Hines reported that the calendar cover will be a heavier paper and the cost of the calendar will be \$8.47 with the selling price \$15.00. The calendars sold in advance of the conference and picked up at the conference. Jane Hamilton-Merritt reminded everyone to submit 5 photos each.

Conference Report: Tracey Gaul reported that all was on track. The schedule is almost complete and most speaker contracts are in. The hotel rooms are sold out and the neighboring Holiday Inn is reserving 10 rooms for GALA at the same rate. Still in need of vendors and sponsors.

Nominations/Elections Committee Report: Sandy Page reported that the most significant pages of the Election Manual has been put into PDF. The committee is working on vetting the nominees with ballots to be mailed out right after Labor Day. Any changes to the by-laws must be on the ballot and Terry Beal will work on getting those changes to the board and Sandy.

Membership Campaign: As a result of the membership campaign GALA has added 18 new members bringing the GALA membership to 280. Carol Millard made a motion requesting approval for anyone joining GALA after September 1 be recognized as a member through the

end of 2014. Terry Beal seconded it and the motion passed. Because of the change in the calendar year, Carol Reigh and Miranda Brown have been contacting members who may have missed the transition notice.

Monkey Survey Update: Terry Beal had a GREAT response to the survey. One hundred and twenty-four members responded. Terry submitted the analysis to each board member with a challenge by the next board call to review and determine 3 issues that stand out for GALA to act on.

August Newsletter Update: Schuyler Merritt reported that the August newsletter is full and will be out on time! Alexa Metrick volunteered to help Schuyler with the newsletter if he needed her assistance. Carol Millard, with a second by Carol Reigh, made a motion to compensate Schuyler \$400 for his work on the May and August newsletters. Motion carried.

New Business

Website: A team consisting of Jane Hamilton-Merritt, Carol Millard, Tracey Gaul and possibly another GALA member will look into having the website re-designed and up dated as soon as possible. RJ Stangerlin's report of April 29 was extremely thorough and helpful.

Mentoring List: Tracey Gaul brought up the idea of having a mentoring list in the directory and website of those individuals who would be willing to serve as a mentor to a new Camelid owner. Carol Reigh suggested instead of separate list to simply put an icon by the name in the directory. The suggestion was made that some guidelines be established and the proposal will be considered at the next board meeting. Sandy Page and Carol Reigh said they would assist with the guidelines.

Drop Box: Jane Hamilton-Merritt has pointed out that as GALA matures, it has become obvious that there needs to be a repository, such as Drop-Box, for important GALA data to be stored. Then if a member of the GALA team becomes unavailable---short or long term--someone else can step in to access the data and continue the work. Carol Millard and Miranda Brown have agreed to Chair the "Drop-Box" initiative.

Newsletter Editor: Carol Millard reported on the status of finding a permanent newsletter editor. Carol Millard made a motion to have Heather Baylis produce the November newsletter with her computer and with whatever program she has on her computer. Terry Beal seconded the motion and the motion carried. After November newsletter is produced, both parties will assess if Heather will continue as newsletter editor and what needs may be identified.

Permanent Advertising Editor: GALA is still in search of an Advertising Editor. The open volunteer position will be put in the August Newsletter and posted on the website. An email blast will also be sent out. Hopefully a willing volunteer will surface.

Next Meeting is September 4, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:04 with Tracey Gaul making a motion to adjourn and Terry Beal with a second. Motion carried and everyone said Good Night.