



GALA Board of Directors 'Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 at 8:00pm

Attending: Steve Silverberg, Andrea Parent-Tibbetts, Debra Gaskill, Meghan Cormier, Audrey Lee, Deb Marcou, Chuck Leach, Paige McGrath, Tabbethia Haubold, Pat McKinney

Absent: Katrina Capasso

Call to Order: Steve Silverberg called the meeting to order at 8:02

Secretary's Report: Deb Gaskill presented the minutes from the July meeting. Minutes were corrected and approved as amended. Motion to accept by Andrea, seconded by Deb Marcou. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Chuck Leach presented the financial reports in Katrina's absence, noting that net income was higher than budgeted. The bulk of that amount came from the Fiber Festival and membership dues. He also called our attention to the equity designated in the Research and Government Relations Fund, which currently stands at approximately \$53,000. Motion to approve: Andrea, seconded by Paige. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Medical Research & Gov. Affairs Committee – Steve Silverberg reported the following:

- **Morris Animal Foundation** is still planning a large animal group meeting in October to try to get the Llama group moving again.
- **Arctic National Wildlife Refuge:** A new regulation went into effect on Aug. 31, banning llamas in ANWR. Audrey made a motion to initiate the appeal of this decision, allocating up to \$20,000 from the Research and Government Relations Fund. Paige seconded the motion. Motion carried. A Go Fund Me page is also in the works to raise money from other sources.
- **Llama Medical Research Group:** Hillary Ware is retiring from the Llama Medical Research Group. Need to give our deepest thanks to Hillary for many years of dedicated service! Barb Baker and Audrey Lee will continue to look after our interests.

Conference Committee: Paige reported that the conference committee has everything in place for the 2021 conference. Some fine tuning will be done in the interim.

Photo contest: Meghan reported that the photo contest due date is October 9. A second e-blast will be going to members to drum up some more entrants.

Annual Meeting requirements: Discussion centered on the importance of staying in touch with members despite conference cancellation. Format discussion (Zoom, Facebook, YouTube) is ongoing. Deb Marcou motioned the board to authorize a special members meeting in the fourth quarter of 2020. Date to be determined. Audrey seconded. Motion carried. The elections committee will be informed of the date.

Old Business:

Carol Reigh's committee to develop a proposal for Retired Llama Owners, which would provide a discount rate for volunteer service help at future conferences, was approved. The committee is slated to meet Sept. 21.

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, October 21 at 8 pm

Adjournment: Audrey motioned for the meeting to adjourn at 8:48 p.m. Seconded by Paige; motion carried.