



Llama Futurity Association

LFA Board of Directors Minutes

From Teleconference Call of January 17, 2006

Roll Call: Phil Feiner, John McDougall, Larry Steffel, Barb Parsons, Larry Kisner, Mike Gerkin, Janet Wilkins (came on call later) Ken Austin – absent

Time 7:15 pm Eastern.

Welcome: John welcomed everyone on the 2006 Board. He particularly wanted to welcome Larry Kisner as our newest Board member. John also took a few minutes at this point in the meeting to thank all the Board Members for their support and hard work during his terms as President. He stated that although he was pleased to be reelected to the Board, he would not run or serve as President this year. John mentioned that The LFA and the Board had been through many challenges over the past two years but perseverance, determination and commitment to strengthen and grow The LFA had overcome all adversity.

Approval of Minutes: A motion to approve the Minutes with corrections of the December 20th meeting was made by Barb P. 2nd by Mike G. Motion passes.

Treasures Report: Phil went over the Balance Sheet and the P & L comparison for 2004 vs. 2005. It was noted that the LFA generated less of deficit in 2005; however we continue to operate at a loss. Discussion inside regarding reviewing all budget items, advertising in particular and strive to make cuts without sacrificing the quality of the fall event. Barb made a motion to accept the treasures report, Mike G. 2nd the motion passes. Phil is checking with the accounting firm regarding their recommendation for a yearend audit. Increasing membership for 2006 was also a topic of discussion.

Review of Election: John discussed and-reviewed the terms of the LFA board. Noted that there will be 3 open positions in 2006. Barb, Larry S. and Larry K. The board terms are now on a rotation basis that was set up in the by-laws. John again welcomed Larry K. to the board and thanked him for running.

Selection of Officers: A discussion of office positions ensued. Mike G. volunteered to take on the President's position. Janet made the motion to nominate Mike Gerken as our new president, Phil seconded the motion, motion carried unanimously.

John agreed to the Vice Presidents position. Mike G. nominated John as V.P. Barb 2nd the motion, motion carried.

Phil agreed to the Treasurer's position. John nominated Phil as the treasurer, Mike G. 2nd the motion, motion carried unanimously.

Ken was nominated to remain a secretary. He will be asked to accept or decline at our next board meeting. Barb nominated Ken, Janet 2nd and the motion carried unanimously.

Mike G. took the meeting discussions from this point forward. Mike thanked everyone for a great 2005 and is looking forward to continuing the growth of the LFA. Mike's goal is to be inclusive and generate even more enthusiasm this coming year for ALL llama owners regardless of the type of llama they breed or show. Mike welcomed Larry K. and asked him to jump in or make suggestions wherever he feels he can contribute. We look forward to his input and insight in 2006. Larry K. plans to help wherever he can.

Committee Reports: Marketing – Janet noted she would like help with advertising portion of her responsibilities. Larry K. volunteered to assist her. A list of publications, time lines and a budget will be established to assist Larry with this responsibility.

Janet is working on retrieving the original video footage shot for our 2 videos this past year. She will look into the possibility of having 30 second advertising spots made up. These could possibly run prior to the Fall LFA event or in advance of the Regional LFA sponsored events in that region.

Janet will spear head a committee with John and Larry S. to review the sponsor benefits and make improvements including adding the \$500.00 min. sponsors and how they will fit into the sponsor program.

Janet will also pursue looking into placing ads in the state association newsletters that are out there.

It was agreed that one primary person should handle solicitation for sale catalog advertisers. The company who prints the catalog this year will be asked to contact the sale consignors directly. The bid process will again be used to secure the publisher for the sale catalog.

Newsletter: Barb is working on the next newsletter. Looking for input from the Sale committee and all areas. Phil will do a mass email broadcast reminding everyone of the new location and that we now accept ads in the newsletter. Looking to get it out by the end of Feb. pending receipt of all the information.

Web site: Phil is working on changing the dates and updating the printable materials. This year the Sale information will again be available to download on line, however, Larry S. asked that it be sent to him with hard copy photos to keep any of the confusion down.

Auction: Larry discussed the need to limit the number of entries into the sale including males. It was discussed and agreed that the sale numbers will not exceed 75 and males will be 5-6 max. The male slots will be made available to our Diamond sponsors first, as in the past. If any remaining male slots are open the Gold sponsors will have an opportunity send in photos for evaluation.

Larry is working on the forms to simplify them and submit them to Phil and Barb. The terms and conditions will be on the back of the printed version and available to download from the web site. A Signature line will be added so that the consignors agree to the terms and conditions.

It was agreed that all sale animals entered would have sod in their stalls.

Larry also thought we should raise our min. commission paid to the LFA from our sale consignors. Presently it is \$200.00. Janet made the motion to raise the min. commission, Larry S. 2nd the motion. Motion carried.

ALSA Show and Futurity: Phil and John are planning a visit to the new site in Cedar Rapids in Feb.

It was agreed that the LFA would once again offer the Double point ALSA show in advance of the start of the LFA. With out the competition of the Regional ALSA shows scheduled on the same weekend we should improve our attendance.

It was agreed that the regional futurity sponsorship this year would be capped at \$1,000. Phil will notify the 5 regional shows that were approved.

The Amateur Futurity was again approved for 2006. Phil and Barb worked on opening up the criteria to bring in more attendance and youth participation. Details will be posted on the web site.

A discussion was opened up in regards to adding another Futurity Class. A Futurity Jackpot Obstacle course was discussed at length. It was agreed that the entry fees generated in this class would be paid out in premiums and that we would not supplement the class with other LFA funds. It was thought that a large cash payout to the top 2 or 3 positions would help generate some new excitement. The non-breeder class is offered in the ALSA show and hopefully many of those who use their animals for performance would participate. It is one more way to include as many enthusiasts as possible but maintaining the Futurity format. Janet made the motion for the J.P.obstacle class to be added, Barb 2nd the motion passed. Larry Steffel and John McDougall voted nay.

Futurity Judges were confirmed: Penny Davidson, Cathie Kindler and Patti Fisher. The ALSA show has secured Mark Smith. One more judge is being sought.

2006 Sponsors: Presently we have 4 Gold sponsors:

Wendell and Ilene Miller, the Wilkins, Bob LaMorte and Patrick Fuller, Barb and Tom Parsons.

Mike Gerkin is considering \$5,000 sponsorship.

Phil, John and Ken are yet undecided on their level of participation.

Several others are being contacted and a report will be given at the next meeting. It was agreed earlier to accept \$500 sponsors. It was discussed that their funds would help support the food venues and the sponsors will be recognize with signage and a thank you introduction at the party itself.

Sub committees: It was agreed that the board liaisons should generate additional volunteers to help with the several details that pop up before and during the LFA event.

Discussion of the Herdsire auction was brought up; no decisions were made if we are to offer it this year.

Barb mentioned that Caer and John Vitek; LFA members recently lost their daughter in an auto accident. It was agreed to send a card with our sympathies.

Next Meeting: February 14, 2006, 7 PM eastern.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:45 eastern time. John made a motion to adjourn, Janet 2nd the motion. It passed unanimously.