



New Board Minutes
Dutchess County Fairgrounds
October 19, 2014

The meeting of the newly elected board members of the American Romney Breeders Association was called to order by president, Ron Andress, at 11:09 a.m. EDT on the Dutchess County Fairgrounds in Rhinebeck, New York. In attendance were Ron, Charlene Carlisle, Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Margaret VanCamp, Chris Posbergh, Karen Nichols, Hilary Chapin and JoAnn Mast, ARBA secretary. Unable to attend were Scott Culver, John Shelton, Al Schwider and Jane Caulfield.

Ron provided a recap of the secretary and treasurer reports provided at the previous meetings, and explained the reimbursement policy for those in attendance. Board members traveling more than 500 miles will be provided \$350 and the association secretary will be reimbursed for \$500 in expenses. Receipts need to be forwarded to the association treasurer.

Old Business

Audit report from Charlene Carlisle and Anne McIntyre-Lahner: "At the request of ARBA president, Ron Andress, we have both reviewed three months of ARBA financial statements. Based on what we reviewed, which was limited to the three months submitted to us, we found everything to be in order, and found no irregularities."

It was recommended that a full twelve month report be reviewed in the future. This will be requested from the association treasurer.

New Business

Appointment of the secretary and treasurer. Chris moved, Karen seconded and the motion to accept the continuation of JoAnn and Christiane passed.

National Show and Sale: Location for national show and annual meeting will be at the Clark County Fair near Vancouver, WA. Discussion regarding the 2015 National Sale was held and a motion by Anne and second by Karen to hold the National Sale in conjunction with the National Show passed unanimously. A committee to work on the show, sale and annual meeting was announced, with Al Schwider, Scott Culver, Karen Nichols, Tracy Haslem, JoAnn Mast, Anne McIntyre-Lahner and Margaret VanCamp asked to serve. All Romney sheep will be included in the show and sale, with animals not registered through ARBA charged a transfer fee as part of the National Romney Sale. With this decision, the Great Lakes Sale will be the Romney Specialty Sale in 2015. Suggested judges for the national show include Matt Best, Clark Co. Fair secured judge, Jeff Rupert, Bill Guardhouse, Dave Cook and Dave Smith.

An update on the Youth Futurity Program was provided by Charlene. Four junior members were actively involved at 16 shows, exhibiting 27 futurity nominated animals. All ewes entered in the MDSWF and Great Lakes sales were nominated by the sellers.

Charlene reported on the All American Show to be held July 4th weekend at the Big E in 2015. She is seeking corporate sponsors for events and is currently working on an educational tour and meal, family programs, and sheep classes for white and natural colored animals. She has help from Hilary, Teresa Walker and Rick Trojanoski.

Future of white Romneys was opened for discussion. With the sale at Rhinebeck having limited entries of white genetics, rather than BW animals, the topic was timely. The number of straight white Romneys is declining, and breeders in search of rams and new genetics are having difficulty finding animals. JoAnn will submit an article for the next Ramblings, addressing the need for continuing to breed for your market, but to also keep records that identify white and color carrying white animals. Sheep sold as white, may be white or they may have a BW in the pedigree that was not identified as such. This may be an advantage or disadvantage, depending on your buyers and their desire to raise white sheep.

Committee Assignments:

Advertising – Chair Chris Posbergh

Education – Chair Hilary Chapin, Chris Posbergh, Margaret VanCamp

Website – Chair Margaret VanCamp, Charlene Carlisle, JoAnn Mast

Youth – Chair Charlene Carlisle, John Shelton, Hilary Chapin

AIET – Karen Nichols and Jane Caulfield

Redistricting – Chair Ron Andress, Karen Nichols, Charlene Carlisle, John Shelton, Anne McIntyre-Lahner

By-Laws – Chair Scott Culver, Anne McIntyre-Lahner

Policy and Procedure – Chair Anne McIntyre-Lahner, Chris Posbergh

Finance Committee – Ron Andress, Charlene Carlisle, Margaret VanCamp

Committee members will be needed to complete the list. Chairs are encouraged to work on securing additional members as needed.

Board Member Participation:

A discussion of the requirement to attend face to face meetings was conducted and the need to remove members missing three consecutive meetings was addressed. A vote of the membership, or unanimous vote by the board, would be required to remove the wording from the by-laws. A motion by Anne McIntyre-Lahner and second by Chris Posbergh was emailed to board members.

Motion: “I move we choose to implement waiver authority Article XIII to deviate from the By-law requirement stated in Article V, Section 2 Vacancies. Proposals for possible changes to the By-laws or Board policy to address the issue going forward will be heard at the spring 2015 meeting of the Board.”

Other New Business

Memberships and renewals will be processed by the ARBA secretary, with reports sent to ASR on a regular basis to maintain updated records. Margaret moved this action be taken, seconded by Anne and approved by a unanimous vote of those present.

The distribution of the Ramblings via email will start with the next edition. Cindy Peterson, editor, will continue to be paid at the same rate and will continue to produce and mail the annual directory provided by the ARBA secretary.

Anne McIntyre-Lahner presented a question from members regarding the weight of Romney sheep listed in the breed standard. Questions seem to be directed at the minimum and maximum weights listed for the breed. Discussion from board members indicated these are estimates, not strict guidelines upon which animals are evaluated. Further checking of standards and breed publications may provide clarity on this issue.

Anne also presented a request of the board for approval to register a 2 year old animal, raised by her with ownership of the sire and dam in her name. Unanimous approval by the board to proceed.

Chris Posbergh provided a report on the progress of the ARBA registrations with extended pedigrees. At this time, all rams are complete and about half of the ewes have been completed. Records have been moved to Baltimore and work continues to establish pdf files needed by ASR.

The next meeting of the ARBA board will be a conference call on Saturday, January 10, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. EST. Ron will provide the secretary with the information to initiate this call.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Submitted by

JoAnn Mast, ARBA secretary