

Minutes of the American Romney Breeders Association

April 5, 2014

Participating in conference call: Ron Andress, Charlene Carlisle, Chris Posbergh, Scott Culver, Anne McIntyre Lahner, Hilary Chapin, Jane Caulfield, Margaret VanCamp, John Shelton, Al Schwider, Tracy Haslem, Christiane Payton, JoAnn Mast.

The April 5, 2014 meeting of ARBA was called to order at 1:02 p.m. EDT by president, Ron Andress. Roll was called and all board members were attending.

The secretary's report was sent to members of the board in an email prior to the meeting. A motion by Anne McIntyre Lahner and second by Al Schwider called for approval and acceptance of the report. Motion carried unanimously.

A treasurer's report was provided by Christiane Payton. The general fund has a current balance of \$3,722.32. The junior member checking account has a balance of \$5,260.90. The CD account has a balance of \$15,661.51. No big ticket items are expected in the near future. Ramblings and Membership Directory are in production and an expense will be attached to the mailing, printing and editor.

Ron provided Christiane an overview of the balances, as of 7/1/2013, in the junior member checking account. Christiane reported the following amounts:

NAILE	\$1,798.45
Culver Memorial Fund	589.00
All-American Show	1,989.00
District 1	163.25
District 2	608.30
District 3	0.
District 4	270.50
District 5	345.28
District 6	76.50

Christiane will account for expenses after 7-1-2013 to update the junior membership checking account. Updates will be provided during board meetings.

Question from John Shelton, inquired about whether or not any money left from the silent auction conducted during the National Show and Annual Meeting would be going to the junior account. Ron indicated there should be about \$300 remaining and available for District 3.

Christiane indicated a report will be distributed when the bills are paid for the month.

No further questions regarding the treasurer's report. Motion to accept as presented was made by Margaret and seconded by Jane. Motion passed unanimously.

District Shows in 1,3,5

District 1: Hilary Chapin reported the show will be held at the BigE in Massachusetts in September. Sheep will show on Sunday, September 23 at 2 p.m. Judge for the Romney classes will be Doug Gehring. Hilary asked if money to support the show was to be sent prior to or after the show. Anne indicated she would send information from the last National Show held at the BigE, and said a purchase order could be sent to Christiane. Sponsors of classes were discussed, and Anne reported that sponsors were listed in the show ring books, and announced by the show clerk. John discussed the use of vouchers that were turned in to the secretary/treasurer.

District 3: John Shelton plans to use the same format used at the National Show in Novi, Michigan last year. There will be a junior show on Friday evening for Michigan youth. The open show for youth and senior exhibitors will begin on Saturday morning. Separate shows will be conducted for white and natural colored Romneys. Youth exhibitors will be recognized in each of the classes. Work continues on securing donors for special awards.

District 5: Al Schwider reported that the show will be held during Labor Day weekend, with the sheep show set for Saturday, August 30. The district show will be held at the Evergreen State Fair in Monroe, Washington. The change in location from the Western Washington State Fair in Puyallup was done based on the limited number of sheep allowed entry in Puyallup.

2014 Romney Specialty Sale – Ron indicated entries are strong for this sale, with 33 Romneys in the catalog. 21 white entries and 12 natural colored. Total sheep numbers are at 350 for this sale, giving Romneys nearly 10% of the sale. The 2013 sale included 30 entries and 27 sheep sold in the sale.

2014 Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival – 9 Romneys have been entered in the Banner sponsored sale to be held this year. Entries include 5 white and 4 natural colored sheep. Total entries were at 50, with 20% being Romneys. The sale entries are posted on the Banner website.

Old Business – None

New Business – Annual Meeting and Dinner (Hilary, Chris, Charlene)

The annual meeting and banquet will be held during the New York Bred Ewe and Ewe Lamb Show and Sale in Rhinebeck, New York in mid-October. Work is continuing on securing a location for the banquet. A block of ten rooms has been reserved at the Quality Inn in Kingston, about a 20 minute drive from the grounds. The banquet could be held there as well, but work will continue to locate other options as well. Cost for meals will be in the range of \$25 to \$30 per person. Meeting space on the grounds will try to be reserved for the old board and new board meetings. Anne and Jane will provide input on locations.

Nominating Committee (One At Large Position)

Directors from districts 2,4,6 will serve as the committee for this position. Those running for this position may be from any of the six districts. Contact Chris, Scott or Jane to make application.

Nominating Committee (Board Members – 2,4,6)

Three board members are needed to fill openings in districts 2, 4 and 6. Members filling these positions must be active members in the district they hope to represent. Contact Anne, Tracy or John with your intent to run for one of these positions.

Reminder to all that membership renewals and applications received by April 1, 2014 will be provided ballots for voting their representatives. Tracy inquired about when the website will be updated, and JoAnn replied that it will be done when the report arrives from ASR and will include a phone follow-up to make certain all applications and renewals were received.

Proposed Romney Futurity – Charlene

Charlene had sent information regarding several futurity programs sponsored by various breeds, and a suggested format for a trial run for junior members enrolled in ARBA. The program would be open to any junior member and would permit the purchase of up to 8 Romney ewes, lambs and yearlings, white and natural colored. For 2014, the following sales will be identified as purchase sites: MDSWF, Romney Specialty Sale, Reno All Breed Classic, Nugget All American in Reno, and the NEYSS as a private treaty sale. For this year, no private treaty sales, outside of NEYSS, will be entered into the futurity program. A full accounting of the rules and score card, with suggested edits, will be posted on the ARBA website. Information will also be included in the spring edition of the Ramblings and the breed notes printed in Banner magazine.

Motion to accept the Romney Futurity was made by Tracy, seconded by Margaret. Motion was passed unanimously.

2015 National Romney Show – Al and Scott

Al reported that Washington may not have a location that will work well, suggested Oregon State Fair. Scott discussed that Oregon State Fair might work, but that the Romney breed was featured recently and may not be selected again for a few years. Classes can happen, but no additional premiums will be provided by OSF.

Tracy offered information regarding a return to the Clark County Fair in Washington. He indicated the fair wants the show and will provide featured breed status, \$50 added for champion and \$25 for reserve champion, separate open and junior shows in white and natural colored, easy access and bedding provided. Ron asked about the return to Clark County, and whether or not the association is ready. Board members who had attended indicated it is time to move forward. Scott included that NARA members could not be excluded from the show, but it would be up to ARBA to include them in the sale if one is to be conducted. Discussion resulted in no need to exclude NARA registered sheep from either event. Attendance at the annual meeting would require membership in ARBA, or participating as a friend of an ARBA member.

Discussion on whether or not to have a National Sale at Clark County Fair followed. Tracy felt the sale in early August is not good for selling rams and would not provide a means to offer futurity animals. Margaret felt west coast breeders need to provide input on what the sale should or could provide. In the past, these sales have not resulted in strong prices.

Ron indicated it was good to have the show and meeting location established. Work needs to continue on whether to have the National Sale at another venue, and if there is a sale in WA, what should it include and who should conduct the sale? Anne indicated it is good to rotate the location of the national show, regardless of the sale. Tracy felt a sale could be possible, but probably not the best spot for a national sale.

Motion to accept the location of the 2015 National Show and Annual Meeting/Banquet at the Clark County Fair in Washington state was made by Tracy and seconded by Jane. Motion passed unanimously.

Advertising and Promotion Committee

Hilary reported that brochures are being printed. Carol Pasheilich has indicated 1,000 brochures are being done at an approximate cost of \$300.

Hilary stated the advertising committee is no longer part of her life. Their response to budget restraints was negative, irate and reflected they were upset that the entire item in the account for advertising was not set aside. The \$5 fee was collected and marked, but not used for advertising in a timely manner. No ads have been purchased recently. Committee members indicated to Hilary that they had been lied to, that funds had been misused and that the board was a bunch of show jocks. Comments became personally offensive to Hilary and she quit.

Hilary did work to get the brochures printed and discussions are in place to create new brochures and that project has been given the green light to move forward. Chris supported the comments from Hilary, that responses from committee members were very angry and he saw no action to be a productive group.

The finance committee had given approval for printing the brochures eight months ago. Several years ago the board approved a \$5 dues increase which was to be used by the advertising committee. Six months later, the board voted to roll over the funds if they were not used. Money has been sent to the General Fund CD and tagged for projects, no approved projects have been submitted.

Discussion from board members raised questions about the future management of dues, funding of association projects, advertising and promotional items. The brochures being printed are not updated, but need to be. Management of association monies was included in the discussion, and it is critical that committee projects be completed in a timely manner and as needed to meet the needs of the membership. Committee funding became an item of discussion when the general fund fell short of being able to pay for new and on-going projects. The make-up of the committee drives the projects suggested for approval, and there may be a benefit in having committee members serve terms. Al reminded board members that the original change was to have the \$5 increase go to advertising.

Motion related to ARBA committees was presented by Margaret and seconded by Chris. Motion stated: Going forward, from this date, no ARBA committee work funded by ARBA funds will have monies roll over beyond the fiscal year. Motion passed, Scott not available for vote.

Following discussion and passage of the motion, Hilary was asked if she would continue to serve as chair of the advertising and promotion committee. She agreed to serve, if joined by Chris and a new committee.

Motion was made to have Hilary and Chris reform an advertising committee. Seconded by Charlene and passed with a unanimous vote.

Policy and Procedure – Anne

Upcoming project will be to write a proposal regarding committee formation and the work completed and in progress by the committee. Reviews need to be done annually and recommendations made to continue or end projects. Committee is also working on procedures for elections.

Ramblings – Distribution

In the future, beginning with the winter 2014 edition, the Ramblings will be distributed via email and provided on the ARBA website. A survey of priority for distribution will be included in the Ramblings and sent to the secretary. Once in place, this should serve as a cost savings to the association. Question was asked if there is a down side to this method. None were identified. This change would still allow for distribution of printed copies as requested by members.

Chris provided the motion: Send the Ramblings in pdf format to the membership and provide physical copies as requested. Seconded by AI and passed unanimously.

John indicated he was having difficulty connecting with Cindy Peterson, Ramblings editor. Ron indicated he would provide board members with contact information for Cindy.

2014 Budget – based on 2013 membership of 212 active and 75 junior, \$7,128 in registrations and \$2,500 in transfers.

\$2600 remains available for archives, when requested.

Motion to accept the budget as presented was made by Anne and seconded by AI. Motion passed. Scott absent.

Committee Reports

Education – Hilary reported the Romney Video on Fitting Sheep For Show is done and on the website. Chris also has updated the original video produced by Bullocks and sent it to Randy Thompson for Facebook.

Margaret asked the question about older information appearing on the web when you are searching for Romney sheep and/or ARBA. I had noticed several items that were posted, but it appears they are attached to other organizations or individual breeders. The ability to remove those is really not available.

Youth – Charlene

Work on the Romney Futurity and getting the word out to producers and youth wanting to make purchases and become actively involved. The youth show in July 2015 will continue to be discussed and promoted, but will not be part of the National ARBA show.

AJET – Jane

No action to report. Paperwork is available if requested.

Redistricting – Ron

No movement or discussion from any districts. Item is suspended until annual meeting.

By-Laws: Scott and Anne

No action.

Policy and Procedure – Pay Pal (report from JoAnn)

Website can be modified to receive renewals and new membership applications. Set up of the basic plan would be a \$50 job. Advanced program could be up to \$500. Information from Doug Meyer was forwarded to Scott. Scott and Anne will review and check out details with ASR.

District Reports:

One: No additional

Two: Work with Norma regarding a Romney Show at NY Fiber show.

Three: No additional

Four: No additional

Five: No additional

Six: Many lambs and Fiber Festivals are taking place.

Other New Business

Annual meeting – Old Board Meeting, Friday at Rhinebeck

New Board Meeting, Sunday at Rhinebeck

Anne: Moved to adjourn the meeting.

Jane: Second

Motion Passed, Scott absent.

Submitted by JoAnn Mast, ARBA secretary.