

Minutes of the ARBA Board Meeting
April 2, 2016

Roll call was taken by Chris Posbergh, president. In attendance were JoAnn Mast, Randy Thompson, Charlene Carlisle, Anne McIntyre Lahner, Scott Culver, Katherine Moore,Carolynn Harwell and Betsy McPherson. Unavailable for the conference call were Allison Seyfert Streaker, Don Burgess and Karen Nichols.

The meeting was called to order by president, Chris Posbergh, at 1:06 p.m. EDT. The secretary's report was distributed via email prior to the meeting and it was moved for acceptance by Scott, seconded by Katherine and approved unanimously. The treasurer's report was also sent electronically. The total received for the Region 2& 6 show at MDSWF was announced (\$225) to date. Motion was made by Betsy to accept the report, seconded by Anne and passed unanimously.

No old business was presented for discussion. Most will be included in committee reports.

New Business

Elections are entering the active timeline. Nominating committees will work from now through the month to identify candidates for the board positions needing to be filled. Candidates are to be active, paid members, who are willing to serve on the board. Names of candidates will be submitted to the secretary by May 1. Candidates will provide a 200 word biography to the secretary by May 15. Ballots will be prepared and mailed by May 25. Completed ballots will be returned to the secretary. All ballots with a postmark of June 10 or earlier will be processed. The tally of votes will be completed by July 1. Anne is chairing the committee for District Directors, and is assisted by Scott and Charlene. Karen is chairing the committee for Directors at Large, and is working with Carolynn and Betsy. No self nominations were received by the April 10 due date.

Annual Meeting

The annual meeting and meetings of the board will be held in conjunction with NAILE in Louisville, Kentucky. No date has been established, but follow up will be done by Charlene. Charlene will contact Don to work with him on lodging, meeting locations and a dinner site. Discussion regarding the meeting was focused on whether to meet during the weekend of the junior show, during the week, or on the weekend following the open show. Tentative dates are November 13-20, 2016. Katherine suggested the weekend might be preferred, and Randy indicated air fares are better during the week.

Budget

Chris provided a proposed budget and spent time highlighting changes and the need to offer a budget based on real dollars. The treasurer will use the junior account for tracking district expenses and the futurity program. Scott asked about Regional Funding for promotion and recognition. Chris provided an explanation of the differing amounts, and offered to make adjustments. No action. Scott also asked about the review of dollars for travel to annual meetings. Chris has not reviewed the actual expenses incurred, but is still willing to have those sent to him for review. Charlene expressed a need to have funding continue to be available for regional events. Donations and sponsorships are helping, but an

effort to strengthen this funding might be necessary. Randy felt the solicited funds for the banners worked well, and help recognize donors for the various shows and events. Scott asked if all district funds are being used. Betsy wanted clarification on what happens to the funds if they are not used. Do they remain with the district? Money does not remain, ends with the end of the budget year. Randy indicated that at one time regions received dollars for promotion, but tendency is to use for show support at this time. Current budget has regions without dedicated shows receiving \$50 and \$350 set to support the District 4 show and \$400 to support the combined Districts 2 & 6 show during the MDSWF. General consensus was the budget appears to make sense as presented. Motion to accept was provided by Charlene, seconded by Anne and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

National Show - Karen, Scott, Anne, Rick Trojanoski

No report to date, Scott will chair the committee. Need to locate two more non-board members to complete the committee. Funding will be important factor in how this committee can make recommendations for change.

Advertising

Charlene has been approached to have ARBA listed in the CT Sheep Breeders Directory. Cost is \$37.50 and directory is published every two years. Distribution is good and begins the end of April. Katherine moved to have payment made, seconded by Randy and motion passed. Committee continues to work on branding concept and has been working on ideas for t-shirts and farm signs. Logo decals and flock record books have been completed and are available for sale on the ARBA website.

Education

Randy and Anne have been working on the breed standards. Randy reported that there are many ideas and opinions on what a Romney should be. He supports the use of photos to demonstrate what a Romney is or is not, but does not want to modify the progress made by earlier contributors to the standard. In reviewing older versions, not much has really changed on paper, making it a guide that is somewhat flexible with relation to management decisions breeders make. The focus should be on education, not a document that restricts the ability to produce and market Romneys that do not fit the mold. Photos that have been used in Ramblings articles are available and can be used to show what is defined in the text. Anne supports the use of historical documents created in the U.S., Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia. She puts an emphasis on why some changes were made and suggested a conference call to discuss these would be helpful. Perhaps an adjustment of points on the current standard would assist. Having input from the membership, not just board and committee members might bring more to this task. There is still a need to identify judges willing to use the standards when evaluating Romneys in the show ring. A sign-off by judges has been discussed.

Website

Charlene had limited comments, but the website is being used to communicate with the membership. Calendar of events is being maintained, membership lists are updated regularly and articles of interest have been posted. Facebook is also available.

Youth

Charlene reports that juniors will be taking part at the MDSWF, NEYSS and NAILE. She also announced the passing of Sue Stewart, and the work being done to honor her during the youth shows. Little Hooves Romneys will be sponsoring a special award in MD and NEYSS is planning to have a revolving trophy available this year.

AI-ET

Scott reports no action at this time, import was made in 2015. No changes in the works.

By-Laws

Scott reports nothing has been submitted for committee to review.

Policy and Procedures

Anne reports computer problems have made progress difficult, no action since last meeting.

District Reports

#1 Katherine – Has been working with Deb Hopkins to confirm classes and awards. ARBA will support having class splits for early spring and late spring and division of white and natural colored classes. She will be contacting Deb to make final decisions and determine costs for having show recognition. Theresa Walker will use the breed display and have a banner for NEYSS and MDSWF.

#2 No Report

#3 No Report

#4 No Report (Regional show will be at Linn County Fair, July 12-17)

#5 Carolynn – The ARBA display will be at the Spring Fair in April in Washington. Black Sheep Gathering will be held in Eugene, OR June 24-25.

#6 Betsy – Working with Allison to support the combined Regional Show for Districts 2 & 6 during the MDSWF. Most awards are ordered, still working on a casual dinner to be held during the festival. Betsy will set up the breed display. She will work with Charlene to finalize plans for a Sue Steward award.

Other New Business

Banner magazine has added a junior section to the breed notes. We had a great entry by the Hromis family and Travis Haslem has been contacted to submit the next article. This is not a replacement for the breed notes, but an additional means of highlighting our membership. Next articles are to be submitted by Carolynn, Allison and Betsy.

Scott indicated he would not be available to attend the annual meeting in November. Chris reminded board members to send their expense reports from WA to him for consideration on adjustments to the travel dollars. Discussions have been held regarding attendance at meetings, and the consensus is still that face to face is much more valuable than conference calls.

Directories have been received.

Next conference call: July 30 at 1:00 p.m. EDT

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. with a motion by Scott and second by Charlene, motion carried.

Submitted by JoAnn Mast, ARBA Secretary