

ARBA BOARD MINUTES: November 3, 2018

The meeting of the ARBA board was called to order by Chris Posbergh, President, at 1:05 p.m. EDT on Saturday, November 3, 2018. Participating in the conference call were Randy Thompson, Scott Culver, Charlene Carlisle, Allison Seyfert, Emma Rogers, Nicole Murray, Carol Pasheilich, Betsy McPherson, Posbergh and JoAnn Mast, ARBA Secretary.

The report from the secretary was approved following a motion by Randy and second by Allison. The treasurer's report was discussed, and edits to expenses for regions 1 and 2 will be corrected. Web links income was questioned, but will remain on the spread sheet for future use, if needed. A motion by Betsy, second from Charlene and vote of the board approved the treasurer's report.

Old Business concerns were presented by JoAnn, and included action of Associated Registries, the use of Instagram, work with the webmaster, content of Ramblings and the distribution of a membership directory in February. Discussion resulted in waiting to see if the registrar returns to better service following their move to a new office, having information sent to board members and included in the Ramblings regarding the use of Instagram, contact with Doug by Randy, and distribution of the directory. Randy moved to have a payment of \$300 sent to Cindy Peterson for the final edition of the Ramblings she produced, and request any additional bills be submitted for payment. A second by Betsy and vote of the board approved the motion.

The content and distribution of the membership renewal letter was presented by JoAnn. Content will remain the same and mailing will go out in November. A motion by Betsy and second by Charlene will have the election of officers for the ARBA board return to the dates used in 2017 and previously. Motion was approved by the board. Dates will be included in the renewal letter and the winter edition of the Ramblings.

Other Old Business focused on the Strategic Plan. Chris provided a review of actions taken since the initial work on the plan in June. Communication with the membership was identified as an item of high importance, and has resulted in the use of Instagram, Facebook, Gaggle, Website and the Ramblings to help meet this need. Input on the next action to implement came from Randy, Carol and Betsy. The need to offer a mentoring program for breeders seeking assistance beyond the information posted on various sites. It was suggested that members recently moving away from breeding sheep be approached about serving as a source of information. It was also suggested that an invitation to serve as a mentor be offered to all members. In order to identify who is enlisted as a mentor, a check off will be added to the membership renewal and a means of coding on the website membership list will be researched.

A second item suggested for action was Carol's request to work on "promotion of genetic diversity within the Romney breed". She questioned whether or not the Science Committee might be given the task of creating an informational piece that will assist breeders in understanding the genetic information included on the certificates of registry. Chris will work with the committee to determine the best method of getting the educational piece prepared and distributed.

Betsy asked for clarification on the goal of the Strategic Plan, wanting to better understand when advertising and branding will become an active part of the strategy. Chris responded with the need to

understand that the plan is a living document, remains flexible, can move in various directions and is what keeps the association moving forward. The purpose of ARBA, as identified in the strategic plan, is to help Romney breeders succeed and thrive. That can be done via communication, education, promotion of sheep and sheep producers and recognition of assisting in making this purpose a success. The basic role of ARBA is to provide a means of registering and transferring ownership of Romney sheep, but the association can also move forward with actions identified in the strategic plan to provide a greater level of support.

New Business report focused on the National Show, Sale and Annual Meeting to be held in conjunction with the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival to be held in Jefferson, Wisconsin the weekend of September 6-8, 2019. Banner Sales has been contacted regarding the sale and the use of live streaming to assist with sales. Carol and Randy suggested that promotion for the fleece sale be conducted, and determine whether or not a separate Romney Fleece show might be possible.

Committee Reports:

Advertising – Don, no report.

Education – Anne, no report.

Website – Randy, no updates. Will check on Doug's work schedule and ability to post items for ARBA.

Youth – Charlene reported on the success of Romneys at the Big E and plans to have a strong display in both the junior and open divisions at NAILE. The Ewe Lamb Raffle was a great success, with \$5,425 raised to support the All American Youth Show and the Junior Romney Show at NAILE. Winner of the lamb was Terry Mendenhall, California breeder. Charlene was concerned that board members voice a desire to support the junior membership, yet did nothing to support the sale of raffle tickets. Ethan Kennedy is holding a private sale during NAILE and will be able to offer buyers an opportunity to exhibit sale animals in the open show. The Youth Futurity program is very strong this year with 15 youth enrolled and exhibiting 23 sponsored sheep. Funds collected for 2018 totaled \$760. Payments to youth will be made after NAILE, based on a point system reflecting participation at shows during the summer and fall.

AI/ET – Scott and committee members provided an updated set of guidelines for use of imported and domestic semen. The guidelines update the previous edition and forms for both imported and domestic collections were created. Discussion centered on the method needed to have the forms filed with the ARBA secretary and Associated Registries. Topics ranging from the number of straws in possession to a bill of sale and the use of semen years after the ram has died. It was determined that the committee needs to continue to work on the concerns presented by board members and report back at the next meeting.

By-Laws – Scott, no action since annual meeting.

Policy and Procedures – Emma reported that she is working with Anne to review the current documents and search for amendments, updates and items compiled by Katherine Moore that need to be incorporated.

District Reports:

#1 Emma – Reported on success of Romneys at the Big E, District 1 Regional Show. Rams in the Supreme Champion round and the awarding of the Supreme Fleece to Little Hooves Romneys, Kenny and Charlene Carlisle. The New England Fiber Festival is this weekend, November 2-4.

#2 Allison – Not much happening, attended Rhinebeck, New York Sheep and Wool Festival, but results have not been posted.

#3 Don, no report.

#4 Nicole – Oregon State Fair was well attended by Romney breeders, both sheep and wool shows. Junior Romney show included more exhibitors than recent years, some being new to the breed.

#5 Carol – Reported that Al Schwider and Greg Hordyk did an exceptional job of putting on the Region 5 show at the Evergreen State Fair in Washington. She will have show results for next issue of Ramblings.

#6 Betsy – Heard from Phillip Simmonds, Kansas breeder, that the Kansas Sheep Symposium was a very good event. He also exhibited at the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival in September.

Other Business

Charlene asked about action of the National Show and Sale Rotation Committee chaired by Sue Kalina. She has breeders interested in the options, but no reports have been provided.

The next meeting of the ARBA board will be held Saturday, January 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. EST. It was requested that meeting agendas and reports be provided more than a week in advance of the meeting.

A motion to adjourn at 3:00 p.m. EDT by Charlene and second by Randy was approved by the board.