

American Romney Breeders Association

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday March 19, 2024 7:30 pm eastern

Call to order and roll call. The meeting was called to order @7:36pm by ARBA President Anne McIntyre-Lahner.

<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Anne McIntyre-Lahner- President	Secretary/Treasurer Position Vacant
Charlene Carlisle- Vice President	District 6 Position Vacant
Marianne DiTaranto- District 1	
Scarlet Lamphier- District 2	
Stacy Schmoll-District 3	
Sue Kalina-District 4	
Tracy Haslem-District 5	
Stephanie Booren-At Large	
Rick Trojanoski-At Large	
Penny Swearingen-At Large	

The meeting was recorded and AI Summary available for review acknowledging potential inaccuracies.

Stephanie encountered technical difficulties joining with Zoom.

Penny Swearingen volunteered to take notes of meeting.

Anne took a moment to welcome everyone and share that the acting Secretary/Treasurer would not be joining.

Anne announced the passing of a longtime ARBA member Margaret Walters, with Anne sharing that her obituary would be included in the Romney Ramblings.

Secretary/Treasurer report spreadsheets were not provided for the meeting.

Anne reported the Membership List was updated by Georgina Anderson on 3/16/2024 and forwarded to ARS. Temporary address for Georgina has been provided until Replacement has been hired.

Rick moved to approve the Secretary/Treasurer report. Stephanie seconded the motion.

Board unanimously approved the report.

Director Reports:

District 1: Marianne reported out events happening in next 3 months starting on Saturday 3/23/24 with the New Hampshire Lambing Clinic hosted on farm with 55 people initially expressing interest.

UConn held an AI Clinic- Annual Blue Ribbon Forum, festivals coming up, Connecticut Sheep & Wool festival is end of April, Massachusetts is the second weekend in May, followed up with New Hampshire's.

District 2: Scarlet reminded everyone of the 51st Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival the first weekend in May.

District 3: Stacey shared Wisconsin's WBA- Sheep Clinic. The excitement in South Dakota that the New Shepherd at South Dakota State (trained in Wisconsin) has brought to the program. She also commented how entertaining the Michigan State Fair was to watch.

District 4: Sue shared how much the Oregon Romney Breeders Association has grown including youth.

District 5: Tracy reported out the Shepherds Extravaganza fair has a new venue in Enumclaw with better parking!! No admission fees. Looking to be a great event.

The first weekend in is the May SW Youth Fair. Open Sheep Show. Open to breeding stock. Show and clinic for pee wee's! And not restricted to 4H/FFA. A Romney show and fleece show. Heavy emphasis on showmanship! Kids will get great participation bucket, bag of feed and halter.

Tracy shared passing of Margaret Walters who formally was a National Board member. He will provide the obituary to Patricia Sanville for the Ramblings.

Committee Reports:

Advertising- Rick. Etsy print on demand is cost prohibitive however, has a person who can do the printing work on promotional and would split proceeds 50/50, this discussion is still in early stages.

AI/ET- Marianne- Nothing new to share.

Bylaws- Penny, will be setting up a meeting.

Education- Penny nothing new to share.

Membership- Nothing new to share.

National Show- Stephanie, no update.

National Sale- Charlene. For fund raising, Willis Plank will donate a black ewe lamb for the National Sale to go to Junior Show Funds. Greg Saylor will not need to pull funds from this. Posting sale entries closing March 22nd via email, Facebook & Instagram. Side note, the original thoughts of a West Coast Exhibitor available for hauling has fallen through.

Annual Meeting- Marianne noted that the deposit needs to be made for the venue for the meeting & banquet.

Policy & Procedure- Marianne. Meeting scheduled for April 8th going through the various Reports to catch all needed changes to implement.

Ways & Means- Sue. No Report.

Website- Stephanie- rearranging front page. She needs schedule of events so she can update. Issue as she has been bumped out of editing capability and will work with the admin to get fixed. Then change the member services dropdown menu to add the advertising piece to be brought back after requests from several breeders.

Youth- Charlene. Futurity \$\$'s checks have been sent out. Stephanie updated futurity info on the website. FB Sunday Selfies has been great, note a 95yr old in Delaware watches every Sunday diligently and shares posts too! Ethan Kennedy is planning on raffling an IPAD to be awarded at the All American Junior Show.

Old Business:

1.Secretary/Treasurer Hiring Committee: Committee met last week & updated job description. There are two candidates who have expressed interest. Note this is the first time in a while that there have been multiple folks interested in the position.

Rick moved to approve the Job Description. Charlene seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the Job Description.

The committee will move forward screening applicants and will call a meeting of the Board to review and decide on applicants.

2.Tabled Motion addressing Member's concern on Age of Lamb Registration moving from end of year to 8 months of age. Tabled Motion was not in Jan 3 BOD meeting minutes. Tracy had motioned that the date lambs can be registered is end of calendar year or Dec 31 after the lamb was born. Rick had seconded the motion. The Motion was tabled to investigate if AR charges more after a lamb reaches a certain age. Anne reported that AR does not charge additional costs. AR charges one flat fee for all transactions.

Stephanie moved to amend the standing motion : Lamb must be registered within 12 months of it being born in order not to be charged the additional cost.

Board vote on amendment passed with 8 approving and 1 opposed.

Motion as amended: Change the age from 8 months to 12 months of when a lamb was born in order not to be charged the additional costs.

Board voted unanimously to pass the main motion as amended. Anne will contact AR for the form to be updated with the change from 8 months to 12 months.

3.Merging North American Romney Association (NARA) Registered Romneys into ARBA

Maria Rooney, representative from NARA, joined the meeting for the discussion.

-As agreed, the Secretary for NARA, Toni has been working to connect their Association's database with AR but have been unable to pull the information off the computer to make the connection. As a result, the handoff has stalled.

-Tracy has been working closely with Toni at NARA through the process. The files needed to be uploaded and transferred over to AR are three generation pedigrees. Tracy will need to drive over to Toni's to work with her computer to get the necessary files to upload. Short term option if time is running out is to provide the hard copy three generation registrations of all sheep to be transferred to ARBA.

-Anne has been in contact with Jeff at AR and he is happy to start transferring sheep still living or direct descendants. Caution, AR is heading into the busy season and the work will not be a priority.

- Currently there are 16 NARA members with 6 members also are ARBA members. Note their website is not updated with the current membership list.

Maria- (very difficult to hear as she is traveling). She reiterates when NARA members purchased sheep documentation that as ARBA registered was required for NARA registration. Also offered up the short term solution to send the NARA three generation pedigree to ARBA for transfer.

Membership for NARA Members to ARBA is \$30.

Sue proposed to offer a cut in fees to transfer pedigrees for a 60-day period.

Maria questioned- 1. Transfer of all sheep over? OR anything needed now: show, sale, breeding stock.

Anne asked does the ARBA board accept that ALL NARA sheep go back to ARBA.

Tracy pointed out that NARA has registered 1700 sheep since 2007 averaging 100 per year. If a copy of NARA database gets to AR they can search the database to confirm. This is the long-term requirement.

A short-term option is needed.

ARBA Board thanked Maria for joining the meeting and sharing.

Board went into an Executive Session for further discussion on NARA registered sheep transferring into ARBA:

-If next spring NARA members want to register ewe lambs in ARBA from NARA ram and ewe they will be able to do this.

-NARA has funds in treasury they want to use to facilitate the transfer of NARA animals.

-AR has a passive position on the transfer.

-NARA wants to transfer their database over to AR records. They currently have five generations. ARBA (NARA?) does not have 5 generations.

-Tracy & Marianne asked NARA about any frozen semen that NARA members had. Tracy has not been made aware of any frozen semen still in NARA, the only semen that NARA membership had was Lynne Barnes which now resides with the Romney Alliance.

Now question to Board is, "Will we allow transfer of registrations of NARA sheep to ARBA". Noting that the original time frame for a price break for the transfer is nearing the end.

Sue proposed a plan to transfer NARA sheep to AR at a reduced fee. Discussion around a 60-day window for transfers, regular pricing thereafter. More discussion on whether older registered sheep needed to be re-registered with ARBA. Tracy emphasized the importance of Flock name & Ear tag number in registering animals, suggesting the inclusion of a NARA registration number on the ARBA paper for traceability. Stephanie raised a question about the validity of NARA registrations at AR which Anne confirmed as valid registrations.

Discussion followed around animal registration requirements and the transfer of registration papers. Sue had provided an email for a transfer of a NARA registered animal into ARBA that had taken place. Anne thanked Sue for providing the information. Tracy provided information on how recognition of pedigrees between various breed associations worked for other breeds.

After a long conversation, exploring multiple questions, the board reaffirmed that at a previous meeting they expressed interest to accept NARA members back into ARBA. The Board generally concurred to accept those NARA registrations only if AR can trace back the parentage to ARBA (which should be many).

Sue moved, and Rick seconded, a time period until May 31st of 2024 for a reduce price of \$10 for any transfer paper being transferred to ARBA. In addition, reduced membership price of \$30 through May 31st, 2024, for NARA members. After June 1st normal pricing. Additionally, we will accept all registrations that Associated Registries can trace back to ARBA parentage.

The board unanimously voted to approve the motion.

ARBA made the recommendation to transfer current sheep you will be registering offspring out of. Push these transfers of breeding stock, utilizing the NARA treasury. Tracy will be working on the database with Toni at NARA. A suggestion was made that Toni should make a copy of all documents and store them on a flash drive in her safe.

4. ARBA Facebook still under Non ARBA Member control, Tracy & Stephanie working on it.

5. Elections Annual Meeting is Sept 20th ,2024.

Timeline- Putting us to 50 Days to Annual Meeting:

April 1st – May 1st Nominating Committee submits Nomination

May 1st – May 15 Nominees Biography Statements due in

June 1st Ballots Mailed

July 15th Ballots need to be postmarked by

5 days to count Ballots

July 20th Notifications to Candidates of results.

Board Positions up for Election:

At Large Director (Rick) up for Election- Odd number districts #1 #3 #5 are the committee for election candidates.

Even number districts up for Election- #2, #4, #6 – At Large Directors are the committee for election candidates.

5. Minutes from the Annual ARBA Meeting & Board Meetings. Minutes still not posted on website as edits have not been made. Georgia is not responsive.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:53pm