

NSW Committee Teleconference
Thursday 6th August, 2020

Unconfirmed Meeting Minutes

Meeting opened at 8.10 p.m.

Present: Maureen Bates, Keryn Burns, Rob Harborne, Fran Haslin, Erin Marsden, Cathi McMullen, Helen Phillips, Emma Timmony, Katy Armson-Graham (Youth Group), Carolyn Austin (AAA Treasurer), Brett Fallon (NSW Board Rep).

Apologies: Ros Davis, Rubey Williams.

Carolyn Austin was invited to the meeting to discuss the Treasurer's Report. Carolyn opened by saying we are just trying to live through the current crisis. She gave a rundown on the financial situation, explaining the loss of \$195,000 for the financial year 2019-2020. The main points being over \$75,000 lost on 2019 National Show and S&J spent over \$30,000 on Judge's intake, revenue from show levy was only \$5,000 so net loss of \$25,000.

In addition, revenue from member services (registrations, transfers etc) was well under budget. Drought, fires and floods contributed to the reduced revenue.

A number of projects are being worked on at Board level.

President's Report:

Keryn has written a detailed report (attached), the main points are:

- Keryn sent an email out to the 180 members who had not renewed by the end of June. List now down to about 100. Some have renewed, some retired and have no animals, some have dropped a second membership.
- Keryn attended a Presidents' meeting on Monday night, minutes will be available soon. Main topics were:
 - Financial situation
 - Outlook for shows in 2021.
 - Shearer availability for this year.
- \$2105.91 has gone into our bank account for Judge's expenses.
- Process for having our ARM this year. We will most likely have a Zoom ORM around Sept and the ARM Nov-Dec. May possibly have a speaker.

EOI for Canberra Royal 2021: (Emma).

This is ready to send out, final version will keep most of the points in the draft copy that was circulated to committee members earlier this week.

Bathurst Show 2021: (Cathi)

Bathurst Show Society wants to start planning the show asap. Cathi said she is willing to take it on again as she has done so much work on it already.

Emma stated that all shows will have an EOI sent out from now on. Cathi concerned she would fail the criteria as it is stated. Emma said people can ask for help if they don't meet all the points, concern was expressed that people may not apply if they think they don't have all the skills required. It was mentioned that S&J are reviewing the Convenor's Manual.

BSS insists the Show Convenor is also the Alpaca Steward and needs to attend Show Society meetings, Cathi is prepared to do that.

She would like to start working on sponsorships for the show as soon as possible as some of these will be from outside the alpaca fraternity.

Social Events: (Cathi)

With the Covid-19 situation there have not been any social events in the Region. Would people think about what could be done to get at least small groups of people together around the State so members don't feel so isolated. Could do something like a photo competition via Facebook.

Action: Keryn will look at setting that up.

Education: (Cathi)

Cathi said Education resources are being developed at a National level. These include fleece-focused videos and material in the lead up to the National Fleece Challenge Show. Webinars are also being looked at.

Cathi is happy to take suggestions for educational materials, but stressed that work at the National level does not take away from the need for educational activities at the regional level.

Katy mentioned the videos the Youth Group have already done, any more of those in the pipeline?

Brett threw out a challenge to the committee for every member to create a short video on a subject (to go on NSW Website?).

Newsletters etc:

Keryn reminded everyone that any documents which are published for general distribution, such as Newsletters, are required by law to have a copy sent to the National Library.

Handouts & Info: (Rob).

Rob suggested developing a standardised handout for giving to people who buy guards and pets. (Some of us already have something we give out so maybe we can send those to Rob to consolidate into one document).

He also said he was planning on making up a list of shearers (info on AAA website is woefully out of date and lacking any useful information)!

(Fran has since suggested she helps Rob with compiling this as she had already intended to do the same thing.)

A reminder raised about the “Managing Alpacas in Australia” booklet available from the AAA, good to give this to people purchasing animals.

Meeting closed 9.30 pm.

Next Zoom meeting scheduled for 8pm Thursday 3rd September.