

Eastern Alliance for Production Katahdins

Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2021

Present: Brad Carothers, Roxanne Newton, Tom Hodgman, Kathy Bielek, Lee Wright, Lisa Weeks and Robert Walker.

President Brad Carothers called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

Old Business

- Lisa moved that the minutes from the last meeting be approved as written. Roxanne seconded and the motion passed. Brad stated that Willoughby was notified that mature rams are to be limited to one per consignor.
- Brad reported that everyone who had joined EAPK as voting members who are not members of NSIP have been notified that their membership was being changed to "associate member" and offered a refund. Robert reported that changes had been made to the on-line membership form. People completing the form must first indicate if they are members of NSIP. If they are not in NSIP, they are automatically offered the associate membership level, so the problem shouldn't happen going forward.

New Business

Committee Reports:

Communications Committee – Roxanne, Kathy, Robert, Lisa, Brad

- A new blog article has been posted with another to be posted yet this week. Roxanne reported that the newsletter is almost done and should go out next week.

Mentorship Committee – Nothing to report.

Symposium & Sale Committee – Brad, Lisa, Lee, Robert, Kathy

- The Kreg grant was approved.
- Robert will be sending out another email blast with an early registration reminder.
- Deadline for consigning animals was discussed. Willoughby said there was flexibility on the deadline, but the sooner people consign, the more advertising they will receive. Willoughby sends out weekly advertising. It was agreed to set the deadline for June 26th, to allow inclusion of the June 15th data run. We will use the July 1st data run for the sale. We can edit/update our own information up until a few days before the sale. Substitutions will be allowed until July 6th.
- Tom mentioned that we could get the genotypes back in the next week or so, in case it's needed for the sale animals.
- There is money in the budget for educational printouts. Brad is working on educational material and Robert is working on marketing material.

- Brad shared that a caterer has still not been identified, since we don't know yet how many people are coming. Brad will work with the committee to finalize plans.
- Lee confirmed that Dr. Greiner will be available for the afternoon presentation.
- Lisa agreed to compile a list of available hotels that can be posted on the website.
- Robert has developed a half page ad for the next issue of the Hairald. He shared his screen so everyone could see and approve.

Website/Social Media Committee –

- Robert submitted a request to switch from a free to a paid version of the website. There would be a \$69 one-time fee which allows five different layouts for the membership page, including the ability to sort. The upgraded version allows 8-10 farms per page on the results page. Kathy motioned to approve the switch to the paid version and Lisa seconded. The motion passed.
- The question was asked how the membership map gets updated. Robert shared that it's done manually. It only takes him a minute or two. He hasn't found a way to automate the process.
- Tom asked if we could add a list of all (past and present) NSIP members with their flock codes, farm name, name, and state. He said he would look into it, and the group agreed.

Technical Committee –

- Tom and Lisa met recently to discuss the committee. They suggested we create an ad hoc committee to work on comprehensive guidelines for FECs, not just an SOP. Tom, Kathy and Rox, agreed to serve on the committee. It was suggested to add Joan Burke and Andrew Weaver.

Lee reported that Andrew is hosting a sheep grazing workshop on July 24th and offered to provide a booth for our group. Lee volunteered to handle the booth, but asked about brochures or fact sheets. The group agreed that the existing fact sheets would make good handouts. Robert suggested developing a rack card. Brad shared that there will be folders, note pads and pens with the EAPK logo for the symposium. Robert suggested a banner or something similar. The group agreed. Robert, Brad and Katie will work on developing the marketing materials and will arrange for printing.

Brad motioned to adjourn the meeting; Rox seconded. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM

Next meeting is June 23th at 7:00pm EST

Respectfully submitted

Kathy Bielek