

# USSA Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, December 12, 2022

Meeting Minutes

Director Attendance: Greg Ahart (President), Brenda Reau (Vice President), Carol Heupel (Treasurer) Amanda Everts (Executive Secretary), Lloyd McCabe, Tom Burke, Diane Russell, Jeremy Geske, Dennis Sorensen, Bill Zwyers and Tom Begg. Non-Director Attendees: Nancy Burton (Junior Coordinator), Wesley Linke (Suffolk Ambassador, UJSSA President), and Jim Van Dyke (South Dakota Suffolk Association).

President Ahart called the meeting to order at 7:33pm central.

## Approval of the Agenda

Bill Zwyers moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Tom Burke. All were in favor, motion carried.

## Secretary's Report

Secretary Everts reported the financials are current as of Friday of the prior week. Lloyd McCabe moved to accept the Secretary's report, the motion was seconded by Diane Russell. All were in favor, motion carried.

## Treasurer's Report

Carol Heupel reported that the investment account balance is about \$250,000 and there was \$2,005 in cash. The cost of the strategic planning session was approximately \$3,700. Dennis Sorensen moved to accept the Treasurer's report, the motion was seconded by Tom Burke. All were in favor, motion carried.

## Ambassador Report

No new report

## Junior Report

Nancy Burton reported the juniors recently meet and had a NAILE wrap-up call. The juniors will create a budget for the upcoming year. There will be a junior webinar in January - Travis Hoffman will be speaking on lamb quality and evaluation. Junior directors have set a fundraising goal of \$1000 per director. The NAILE junior exhibitor t-shirts will be mailed out. There is discussion on bringing back division awards for the AAJS – the fundraising needs to occur to support the purchase of those awards. .

## Foundation Report

Brenda Reau reported Foundation board met the prior night and discussed funding some new programs. The board is currently reviewing the ewe lamb giveaway program and considering possible alternatives. The Foundation board was open to considering a funding request for the upcoming Suffolk event.

## Committee Reports

Budget – No report, will likely meet in January.

## Breed Improvement

Lloyd McCabe reported that the structural correctness drawings are in progress – the committee will meet in January.

## Digital Suffolk

Diane Russell discussed the timeframe of membership renewal and access to Digital Suffolk. Diane Russell made motion that accounts will be disabled for members who have not renewed their dues by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The motion was seconded by Brenda Reau. A vote was taken, all were in favor. Motion carried.

The committee will review convenience fees incurred with credit card payment and will look at ways that the fee can be removed in the future.

## Strategic Planning

Jeremy Geske reported that he work on a document for tracking progress of strategic planning goals.

## Education

Dennis Sorensen reported that the education committee met and will work on the following topics: 1)develop a questionnaire for Suffolk ram users; 2)breed improvement vs. flock improvement; and 3) attributes of a Suffolk ewe. The committee will meet on December 27.

#### Event

Tom Begg reported that a draft event budget has been made. After outreach to members, there is a lot of interest in this event and 2023 is an option and planning for 2024 should begin.

#### Marketing & Outreach

Brenda Reau reported that the committee has not met and a meeting is planned for January.

#### Old Business

##### North American Suffolk Sheep Society

Tom Burke reported that preparation is happening to organize – plan to open January 1.

#### January Membership Vote

There will be an informational meeting for members to attend in January via zoom to ask questions about the presentation vote.

#### New Business

##### District 1 Director Vacancy

There was discussion surrounding eligibility to fill the director vacancy clarifying if a 2023 membership had to be paid. Tom Burke moved that to be eligible, 2022 dues needed to be paid. The motion was seconded by Lloyd McCabe. A roll call vote was taken; yes – McCabe, Heupel, Burke, Russell, Geske, Sorensen, Reau, Zwyers and Begg; no – none. Motion carried.

#### Outside Committee Members

Committee chairs will receive a list of non-board committee members within the next week.

Tom Begg made motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Burke. Meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.

Minutes approved 2.8.23.