

United Suffolk Sheep Association
Board of Directors Conference Call
July 28, 2014
7pm central

Board Members Present: President, Rob Zelinsky, Vice-President, Bill MacCauley, Treasurer, Rex Quam, Secretary, Amanda Everts and the following directors: Keith Pumphrey, Donna Mays, Paul Skartvedt, Bill Royer, Diane Russell and Larry Pauly. Chris MacCauley, UJSSA President was also on the call. Board Members Absent: Amanda Dobson and Lisa Webster. Virginia Gergen was not on the call as the meeting information was sent to the wrong email.

The meeting was called to order by President Zelinsky at 7:02 pm central.

Secretary's & Treasurer's Report

Amanda Everts reported that she was close to being caught up with registry work in the office. The amnesty program brought in about 550-650 registrations. Registrations are down about 600 (FY year-to-date) compared to last year at this time. The association's checking account balance is approximately \$19,000 and the investment account balance is about \$202,000. It was noted that our revenue will be down this year as the amnesty program lowers the registration fee from \$12 to \$6 per head. Larry Pauly made a motion to approve the Secretary's and Treasurer's report. The motion was seconded by Donna Mays. The motion passed.

UJSSA Report

UJSSA President, Chris MacCauley, reported that there were around 200 sheep shown at the 2014 junior show by 70 exhibitors. The 2015 show will be held in West Springfield, Massachusetts.

Committee Reports

By-Laws

Chairman Keith Pumphrey, confirmed with the board that Amanda's title change to Executive Director will be a board decision and the by-laws will not be revised with this change.

Futurity

No report.

Marketing/Promotion

Chairwoman, Diane Russell reported that there has been no new information since the June meeting.

Budget

The proposed budget was provided to the directors, discussion followed. Larry Pauly made a motion to add \$1500 to the budget for performance committee expenses and \$2500 will be allotted to the performance committee from the investment funds to create an interface with the association's current registration program and NSIP. Bill MacCauley seconded the motion. The motion passed. The budget was balanced by increasing directory revenue by \$1500. Larry Pauly made the motion to adopt the 2014/2015 FY budget. Donna Mays seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Scholarship

Amanda Everts reported that the scholarship deadline is October 1st and encouraged the board to promote the scholarship opportunities to junior members.

Hospitality

Amanda Everts reported on Amanda Dobson's behalf – the sub lunch at the Midwest Stud Ram Sale went over well. If the board decided to have the sub lunch again next year more subs will need to be ordered.

Ambassador

Amanda Everts reported on Amanda Dobson's behalf - this year there was only one applicant for ambassador. After going through the interview process with this applicant, the coordinators and USSA President felt that it would be best to not offer the position to that junior; the ambassador represents the breed and the associations, and needs to be knowledgeable about the breed to represent us accurately.

There was a brief discussion in regards to who pays the Ambassador's reimbursement (up to \$1000). It was decided that junior funds from this year forward, will be used to reimburse the Ambassador as one of their primary responsibilities is to work closely with the juniors and provide insight on junior board affairs.

NAILE Market Lamb

No report.

Hall of Fame

No report.

Performance

Larry Pauly reported that the performance committee had a good meeting at the NSIP sale. Performance testing/collecting data is a good tool that members can use within their own flock for improvement, whether members choose to be a part of NSIP or not.

Old Business

NAILE Open Suffolk Show Awards

Amanda Everts reported that award sponsorships are still available for the NAILE Open Suffolk Show – Slick Show pair and flock class(es).

Percentage Registry

Diane Russell made a motion to consider 75% and higher as a purebred Suffolk. There was a lengthy discussion. Larry Pauly seconded the motion. The motion passed; none were oppose to the motion. Lowering the percentage will allow breeders to take advantage of a little heterosis and crossbreeding to improve their Suffolks. It was stressed that with the percent change the breed standard should be followed.

Retreat

There was a brief discussion if the board wanted to have another retreat this fall. It was determined that there will be a retreat held October 31st through November 2nd in Kansas City. Bill Royer made the motion to reimburse for up to \$500 travel expenses per director for the retreat. The motion was seconded by Larry Pauly. The motion passed. There was a brief discussion about where those funds would come from for reimbursement and if the board should use investment funds as this retreat is a strategic planning session for the association. Diane Russell made a motion to use investment funds to cover retreat travel reimbursements for directors whom request funds. The motion was seconded by Bill Royer. The motion passed. There was a brief discussion if there should be a facilitator at this retreat; President Zelinsky will contact Denny Everson to see if he advises that a facilitator is present.

Annual Meeting

There was a brief discussion as to what date the annual meeting should be held this year. Larry Pauly made a motion to hold the Annual Meeting on Monday, November 17th. The motion was seconded by Donna Mays. The motion passed.

New Business

Election Candidates

Amanda Everts reported that District 1 has one individual turn in their intent to run, District 2 has had two candidates turn in their intent to run, District 3 has had one candidate turn in their intent to run and there has been no official letters of intent submitted from District 4. Candidates have until August 1st to turn in their letter of intent to the office or have mail postmarked to be eligible.

National Sheep Association

President Zelinsky reported that Paul Skartvedt, Amanda Everts and he meet with representatives from National sheep Association (NSA) and other association representatives during this junior show. The National Sheep Association's major focus is organizing and running junior shows throughout the country, modeling themselves after National Swine Registry. They are investigating whether to register sheep themselves (it would be outsourced); association representatives at the meeting encouraged them to keep the registry work with the associations as it is now. President Zelinsky thought the USSA could build an alliance with them as they would organize junior shows and the USSA would register the Suffolk sheep. The change in the percentage program would work advantageously to the National Sheep Associations objectives. During the meeting there was a discussion on funding and where the funds will be coming from. There was also discussions about the USSA futurity program along with the NSA's junior shows. The NSA will be providing a report to breed association on their discussions once they meet again this summer.

Junior Show Suggestions

The junior show went over okay. Some ideas were to move showmanship contests to different days, add slick shearing and team fitting contests. There was a discussion to provide higher value awards, ribbons more similar to NAILE, etc.

There was discussion during the junior show between directors at the junior show in regards to leadership change of the junior coordinators. Bill MacCauley made a motion to change one of the coordinators, Rebecca Krinsky and hire Taylor Peck as her replacement, keeping Amanda Dobson on (as coordinator). The motion was seconded Donna Mays. There was no one opposed to the motion. Bill MacCauley reported to the board that Taylor is committed to being a co-coordinator if the board decides to make a change.

President Zelinsky reported that he has had a request by a member to post the Treasurer and Secretary's report posted to the website earlier. There was a consensus by the group to approve the meeting minutes by email, rather than waiting until the next conference call.

There was a discussion in regards to Land of Lincoln certificates and the age of the sires and dams listed on the certificates. The board will think about how they would like to approach this topic. There was also a brief discussion about requiring technician signed artificial insemination certificates.

Motion was made by Larry Pauly to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Diane Russell. The meeting was adjourned.