

Midwest Lama Association Meeting Minutes February 25, 2018

Call to Order- 8:35 a.m.- Kim Schechinger, president
Opening remarks included thanks to all participants for a great conference. Dan will send out a survey to get feedback on the conference and ideas for next years' topics.

REPORTS

Secretary's Report- Lorraine Kilmartin, secretary
Minutes from May membership meeting may be found on the website.

Norris Berg made a motion to approve; Becky Willhite seconded it.
Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report- Tracey McGinnis

Starting balance 1/1/17	\$22368.25
Income	\$14397.53
Expenses	\$16,821.24
Closing balance 12/30/17	\$19,944.54

Norris Berg made a motion to approve; Connor Cook seconded it.
Motion carried.

Financial Request Committee- Norris Berg, chair

Danita Doerre headed up the committee during Norris' absence
Three requests were granted for approximately \$650 [note: See May 2017 minutes]

Requests that have come in for upcoming year include MN state Fair ribbons; Farm Tech days at U of M; and Badgerland.

Youth Grant Committee- Lorraine Kilmartin, chair

Two grants were awarded, but one event was cancelled. \$400 went to the Midwest Lama Club for a judging clinic and a youth clinic on June 3 at the Benton County Fairgrounds. Cheryl Pflipsen gave highlights, recapping her article from the Summer/Fall 2017 Newsletter. The application deadline for grants is March 15; information on how to apply is found on the website.

A third committee member is needed. One phone conference is usually all that is required of committee members. No one volunteered.

Scholarship Committee- Kim Schechinger, committee co-chair

A scholarship of \$250 was awarded to Emily Billings. The second person awarded a scholarship of \$250 hasn't responded yet. The applicants have been good, qualified applicants who provided transcripts.

The deadline for scholarships is May 15. The application is on the website.

OLD BUSINESS

Sympathy cards were sent to Barb Parson's brother, and to Marcia Ollendick's mother. Cards for Marybeth and John Sinclair's father will be sent this week

NEW BUSINESS

Newsletter – Kim Schechinger for Cynthia Johnson, editor

Please send articles and information to Cynthia. Reminder: recipients of grants, scholarships and financial request committee funds must submit an article about the event.

Website- Dan Whittaker

A show of hands indicated about half of those present use the website. Dan updates the site periodically, so email him information you wish to share. Dan requested pictures for the site, as well as comments and suggestions. He thanked to all those who have sent information.

Conference Fees- Kim Schechinger

With the current fee of \$25, the Youth Conference doesn't pay for itself; this year the youth were included in the banquet, and the meal cost alone was \$30. MWLA provided a budget of \$125; some supplies were donated. The youth received 8 hours of programming, including making clay ornaments, dyeing t-shirts, a movie, and more.

The board proposes raising the Youth Conference fee to \$30 to cover the cost of meals.

Discussion touched on the importance of the program, and the needs of older youth attending. Some members felt the fee was low.

Norris Berg made a motion to keep prices the same, that is, \$60 for adults; \$25 for youth; Floyd Zopfi seconded it.

Motion carried with 15 Ayes and 10 Nays.

Youth Conference Committee- Kim Schechinger

The board proposes a Youth Committee of adults and youth to help plan the Youth Conference in 2019.

Katie Mazac, Nick Hauptly, Kristie Brown (on sign-up sheet) volunteered as adult members, with Patty Patterson as an alternate; Kylie Stafford, Isaac Beck volunteered as youth members.

The committee's role would be similar to the board's role regarding the adult conference. The board would approve plans and budgets.

Lorraine Kilmartin made a motion to create a youth committee to plan the youth conference, to work with the volunteers who would

implement it; and to integrate it with adult conference; Nick Hauptly seconded it.
Motion carried.

Call for ideas for next year's conference.

Randi Kirchner made suggestions: nutrition; farm management; running a business. Please add additional ideas to the survey about the conference.

University of MN Ag Awareness Day- Julie Mazac

Julie, Connor Cook and Rick Carlson attended last year. The display with fiber and llamas received much interest from the public. 2018 Ag Awareness Day: April 10th, 10-3 pm.

*Lorraine Kilmartin will also attend and bring a loom.

Show Superintendent Workshop- Nick Hauptly

Nick proposed a workshop to train show superintendents, to be led by experienced superintendents Kathy Duvall and Sharon Lambert. They will offer this training in their area at an SSLA conference this year, and they have background in both ILR and ALSA shows. Nick believes the Iowa Lama Association (ILA) will split the cost with MWLA.

Estimated budget is \$2500 for leaders' fees and transportation. Nick suggests a donation of \$20-25 per participant for a day-long event. Discussion touched on the need for trained superintendents, the opinion that people may not be volunteering to help at shows because of a lack of knowledge, and a suggestion that a county fairground location would make it affordable. Julie Hendrikson offered that Mower County would provide the food.

Lorraine Kilmartin made a motion to share costs with ILA to bring these two speakers; to charge a fee with any excess to be split between IA and MWLA; with a maximum MWLA contribution of \$1250. Katie seconded it.

Motion carried with 1 abstention, 1 nay.

ILR Judging Clinic- Nick Hauptly

Nick Hauptly, Katie Mazac, and Lyn Meany proposed an ILR judging clinic to be held at the St. Paul U of M Campus. Preferred dates would be in November, Friday through Saturday, but possibly in December or January. It would be a three-day clinic for those seeking a certificate at a rate of \$125 per day, and a two-day clinic for those auditing, at a cost of \$75 per day. It would include a wide range of topics. Three judges would teach the clinic. The cost for the arena would be \$7000. They expect 25-30 participants. The cost would be split with Iowa Lama Association. Nick, Katie and Lyn requested funds to reserve the facility, with a maximum of \$1000.

Discussion included pros and cons of the proposed location, a suggestion to look for farm backing for funds, and plans to reach out to organizations nation-wide via social media

A motion was made to partner with the ILA to sponsor an ILR judging clinic by providing a maximum of \$1500 with excess funds after fees to be split by the two organizations. Connor Cook seconded it. Motion carried with 3 nays.

Llamapalooza

The board has pulled the show together for May 12-13, 2018 at Shepherd's Harvest, Lake Elmo, MN; there is a welcoming letter in the conference packet; Dan Whittaker will put the information online. Mike Haumschild will judge. Tracey McGinnis has put in the application for sanction fee. Jenni, Pat and Eric Olson will handle the registration and ILR work, and they have ordered ribbons. Information should be live on ILR soon if it is not already. Delivery of gates and obstacles has been arranged. Ann Barkly will clerk. Rooms are blocked under "Midwest Lama Association" until April 11 at Country Inn and Suites in Woodbury (10 rooms, at \$89) and at Holiday Inn Express Woodbury (at \$126, more with breakfast). Hotels in Hudson are another option. Volunteers are needed at the show.

UPCOMING EVENTS 2018-19

April 6-8 March Llama Madness; Cloverdale, IN
 April 28-29 Heartland Llama Show; Mason City, IA (New Location)
 Super 8 (new) rooms \$70 blocked right next to facility
 May 12-13 Llamapalooza; Lake Elmo, MN with raffle of laser cut custom sign
 June 9-10 Badgerland; Jefferson, WI
 June 22-24 Gathering of Friends LFA; Waterloo, IA
 July 14-15 Northern WI State Fair; Chippewa Falls, WI
 August ? IA State Fair; Des Moines, IA
 August 23-28 Central WI State Fair; Marshfield, WI
 August 29-31 MN State Fair; St. Paul, MN
 September 14-16 Fall Harvest; Waterloo, IA
 Mid-September- Cancer fundraiser; last year it brought in \$77000
 Feb 15-17, 2019 Winter Conference; Stoney Creek Conference Center, Onalaska, WI. A show of hands indicated that members liked this location. The conference is moved back to the original weekend in 2019.
 *Bob will send information on cancer fundraiser to Dan for posting on the website.

OTHER BUSINESS

New directories were given out at the conference last year. If you didn't get one in last year's packet, let Kim know.

* Action Item

A sign-up sheet was passed around.

*Kim will send out copies to those on the sheet.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Vice President Nominations were opened.

Norris Berg nominated Dan Whittaker; he accepted. There were no other nominations.

Tracey McGinnis made a motion to close nominations; Norris seconded it.

Nominations closed.

Dan Whittaker was elected Vice President.

President Nominations:

Becky Willhite nominated Kim Schechinger; she accepted. There were not other nominations.

Connor Cook made a motion to close nominations; Tracey McGinnis seconded it.

Nominations closed.

Kim Schechinger was elected President.

Adjournment

Connor Cook moved to adjourn the meeting; Kim Schechinger seconded it.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 a.m.