

Minutes of AAA Board Videoconference

11 April 2023

Via zoom

1. CONVENING OF MEETING

WELCOME President Brett Fallon opened the meeting at 8.04 am.

PRESENT: Brett Fallon, Mick Williams, Annemarie Ashton-Wyatt, Julie Wilkinson, Carolyn Austin, Alexandra Maramenides, Andy Bousie, Lee Sadler

APOLOGIES: Sue Harris,

GUESTS:

MINUTE TAKER: Tanya Wheeler via tape

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST AND WHS

2.1. REGISTER OF DECLARATION OF INTEREST - It was noted by the Chair that the Register was to be used by directors for any listed agenda items or anomalies that arise during the meeting where an interest needs to be declared.

2.2. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY WHS Nil reported.

3. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Draft minutes of, 14 March 2023

BM23M18 The Board RESOLVED to confirm the minutes of the AAA Board video conferences held 14 March 2023 as true and correct record.

4. BUSINESS ARISING

Nominations for AAYE Chair position

There were no nominations for the AAYE Chair position.

5. GOVERNANCE

.1 Policy review – Working with Vulnerable People Policy

Discussion about the policy update generally. This policy to be sent to all committees to ensure that it is implemented.

BM23M19 The Board RESOLVED to accept this updated policy.

6. EXECUTIVE REPORTS

6.1. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No update this month.

6.2. FINANCIAL REPORT

The association remains in a good a financial position. General discussion about the P & L reports and budgets.

Current fees need to be reviewed on a whole. A review is to be undertaken by the Treasurer. Carolyn will provide a paper on options.

Recommendation that \$100,000 from the cash management account be moved to a term deposit to get a higher interest rate.

BM23M20 The Board RESOLVED to accept the treasures report.

BM23M21 The Board RESOLVED to approve the \$100,000 be moved to a fixed term deposit.

7. BOARD ACTIONS / PROJECTS

7.1 Education

THINKIFIC – was incorrectly referred to in the March meeting. This platform is for formal education courses not for the sessions that are done by the AAA. These will be placed on a platform tied to the AAA website.

Discussion was had about how we can get the education sessions online and a list of courses that would benefit members. This is a key priority.

Annemarie will come back to the board with a quote for education sessions/courses on alpaca survival.

7.2 Sustainability

7.3 MATC update

7.4 SJC update

SJC offered an Alternate Apprentice judge intake process.

In principle, the board agreed to a slight adjustment to the process including;

1. Potential candidates include members who have demonstrated success through Junior Judging and other appropriate activities. Priority to those candidates that attended the 2nd apprentice intake weekend at Ambersun in 2019. Then invitation for those members that attended the 1st apprentice intake weekend at Baarrooka in 2019 to apply again.
2. The SJC will employ rigorous assessment of potential candidates before accepting additional entrants into the program. This assessment would include assessment based on industry knowledge of each candidate.
3. The SJC have recommended additional apprenticeship activities (seven halter shows and seven fleece shows) to provide additional guidance and training to Apprentices entering the program in this manner. It is anticipated that an assessment of the Apprentice would take place after two halter shows and two fleece shows to confirm continuation in the Apprentice Judge Program.

Update judge upgrade policy

- a candidate is offered a position as an Apprentice Judge through an activity other than a Judge Intake Program. This provision will require an Apprentice Judge to successfully complete at least seven (7) halter show apprenticeships and seven (7) fleece show apprenticeships.

Continuation in the program will be dependent on successful assessment following the first two halter and first two fleece shows.

- Apprentice Judges are expected to conduct themselves in a manner befitting a Judge who is accredited by the Australian Alpaca Association. The SJC reserves the right to recommend the removal of an Apprentice from the program to the Board.

Judge and apprentice update

Brett Fallon has resigned from the AAA Apprentice Program.

James Wheeler has been granted leave from the AAA Apprentice Program until 01 January 2024.

Further discussion to be undertaken on new apprentice's process. Is the best process in place currently. Time, cost and personal input. Proposal for a plan to be made with the apprentice to forward plan (look at fleece and halter together) and provide some type of financial assistance, maybe through the regions or other funding models.

ACTIONS:

Need clarification on how candidates are selected. EOI process to be confirmed, mentor appointed to each apprentice, psychometric testing.

To be based off the original documentation and send to SJC for consideration with the Board comments.

7.5 Fibre & Market update

7.6 eAlpaca update

7.6 R & D update

Cashmere Connection

The discussion with Cashmere Connections with regard to the commercial dryer. The board discussed the request for more information from Cashmere Connections. It was noted that there was still information that was needed. Suggestion for moving forward in a way that offered equitable benefit to all members required further communication. Discussion included providing the grant up front with vouchers and product. Initially Suri throws. The throws can go the regions and the regions keeps the money from the sales/raffles. We will ask for some other types of products such as a mix of Suri and Huacaya scarfs/socks or something similar over the coming years for the reimbursement.

BM23M22 The Board resolved to progress this with the option of product being looked into.

7.6 Animal Health update

8. Actions/Project reports

9. Any other business

Next meeting:

9th of May 2023 at 8 am

Meeting closed 10.34 am.