

American Border Leicester Association
Meeting Minutes
August 24, 2009

Present: Jennifer Bierhuizen, Greg Deakin, Polly Hopkins, Sue Johnson, Kerry Phelps, JoAnne Tuncy, Di Waibel, Sally Barney

The meeting was called to order by President, Greg Deakin. The minutes of the July meeting were approved as sent to the Directors and as amended. The Treasurer's report was approved as sent. Greg reported that currently the ABLA has registered 579 sheep and transferred 201. Polly reported that there are 147 members.

Old Business:

By-Laws Vote: Sally reported that she has received 33 valid votes on the amendments to the ABLA By-laws. A discussion followed on how best to re-address the issue and increase the number of voters as 2/3 of the active membership had to participate in the voting process for it to be a valid result. It was agreed that the Board would try a third time to get members to vote; Greg will send a reminder to current non-voters. On the outside of the envelop will be a reminder that a ballot is enclosed. Sally will e-mail those she has e-mail addresses for asking them to be on the lookout for the ballot and to vote. Greg will send the letter.

Committee Reports:

Publicity: JoAnne reported that Polly has the display and will put it up at the National Show at Eastern States Exposition. JoAnne will take the display to Rhinebeck, NY for the Bred Ewe and lamb sale and Greg will then take the display to NAILE.

Newsletter: It was reported that some members did not like the small size of the newsletter and that they would prefer the full sized version. Sarah is interested in continuing as editor and will continue to put out the newsletter. The Board voted to move the newsletter deadline to October 1, 2009 so that National Show results can be included. It was suggested that a newsletter deadline structure be developed and included on the web and in the newsletter. It was suggested that the newsletter be placed on the web site and that members be asked for articles, recipes, etc.

Website: JoAnne reported that the web site is coming along. She suggested that when you send information you send it on a CD or in a Word document. JoAnne requested pictures for the web site and asked Greg if he could get her the results of the Maryland Sheep & Wool Festival in a convertible format. The meeting minutes will be placed on the site after they are approved by the Board.

Junior Program: There is no new news to report.

National Border Leicester Show: JoAnne reported she had not received any additional money for donations for trophies and awards. Polly will get an award for Best Head as the Exposition does not fund that particular class. Sally reported that the dinner at Storrowton Tavern was all set and that reservations were coming in. Everything seems to be in place. The Board agreed to send a letter to the National Show judge and include the breed standard with a request that he follow the breed standard. JoAnne agreed to send the letter to the judge, Henry Schultz.

Futurity: Kerry reported that 3 youth had signed up for the Futurity and were campaigning their lambs at area shows. It was agreed that it will take awhile for the program to catch on.

Western Region: Di reported that the Oregon State Fair is next week. The Oregon Flock & Fiber numbers are down.

New Business:

Northeast Border Leicester Association: JoAnne asked about the letter she had received outlining the formation of the Northeast Border Leicester Association. Sally explained that there were many Northeast Associations for sheep including Suffolk, Tunis, Southdowns, Hampshires, and more. The purpose of the group is to work in a complimentary way with ABLA to promote Border Leicesters and to support activities in the northeast for Border Leicester breeders. It is not a breed registry. It was noted that the name of the organization sounded like another registry and that perhaps the name could be changed. It was expressed that the group could be perceived as dividing ABLA rather than complementing it. Sally will share the concerns expressed with the group interested in forming.

Jennifer asked if anyone had responded to Cathy Shiff's submission to the ABLA chat room. It was agreed to have Greg, as President, send her a note thanking her for her interest and indicating that the Board would take her comments under advisement.

There being no further business to come before the meeting the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Sally Barney – Recording Secretary

**NEXT MEETING
OCTOBER 12, 2009
8:30 PM Eastern**