

ABR Fiber Committee Minutes

July 31, 2010

1. Intro 10:30-10:40

Attendees: Tracy Adams, Sandy Liggett, Sue Lindh, Mary Madison, Sheri Neuman, Billie Rogers, Sandy Searcy, Barb Ziek, Becky Zierer, Christin Jones

2. AOBA 10:40-10:45

a. Liaison to AOBA Fiber Comm

Christin is liaison to the AOBA Fiber Committee and was asked to give status reports on Committee Activity and prepare regular article for ABR Newsletter.

3. Budget 10:45-11:00

The proposed budget was discussed. The County Fair line item was increased from \$100 to \$300 to cover expenses for entry in Arapahoe, Douglas and Elbert Fairs. It was recommended that the Fiber Committee be responsible for creating a model for the submission of fleeces, judging and prizes. Barb Ziek will discuss further with Jody Sharp, Verlene Lee and Marie Hoover who were involved with the Elbert County Fair. Additional line items added include \$500 for Estes Park Sponsorship; \$300 for Student Design Awards; and \$500 for Fashion Runway Project. The total 2011 Budget Proposal is \$ 7500.

4. Education/Workshop 11:00-11:15

a. Instructors

b. Locations

i. Rental fees

ii. Member farms

Following a lengthy discussion of advantages and disadvantages, there was general agreement that it was good stewardship of funds and other resources to use available non-cost facilities, including member farms and ranches for fiber committee activities. Mary Madison was tasked to draft guidelines which would address the following: 1) draft a request memo asking members to indicate their interest in offering their facility specifying facility amenities; 2) Draft a list of activities facility providers should limit during such activities; 3) Draft a Code of Ethics for facility providers.

With regard to scheduling fee based activities members were reminded that the goal with any educational session is to cover cost and breakeven on expenses. An activity 'for the good of the order' may be an exception.

5. Fundraising 11:15-11:25

a. Silent Auction

Billie Rogers will undertake fiber focused fundraising project with understanding that all proceeds from such actions are ABR Funds. Benefit to the Fiber Committee come in the form of our approved budget requests. Other potential fundraising activities to be held during GWAS were discussed. Barb Ziek and Mary Madison will develop a group-

focused felting activity to engage participants during earlier part of week when members have more free time.

6. Organizational Memberships 11:25-11:35
- a. Tactile Textiles
 - b. Mountain & Valley Wool Association (MAVWA) sponsors Taos Wool Festival
 - c. Weavers Guilds
 - d. FashionDenver

We will continue our membership with Tactile Textiles. The option for having exhibits/meetings on site is on hold pending resolution of Tactile's relocation. It was decided that we would not participate in the Taos Wool Festival sponsored by the Mountain & Valley Wool Association but consider it for the future. There was agreement that we should extend outreach efforts to Guilds and Fiber Artist encouraging their participation in ABR Fiber related activities. Barb Ziek will compile a list of Fiber Artists for purpose of encouraging their participation. Members were encouraged to view FashionDenver website and determine if individual membership in the organization met their needs. Mary Madison is to investigate sponsorship for design contest focusing on uses of alpaca fiber. Becky Zierer and Mary Madison are to draft options for creating a Fashion Show at GWAS.

7. Product Booth 11:35-12:05
- a. Leads
 - b. Rules
 - c. Reimbursements
 - i. Set-up Expenses
 - ii. Travel
 - iii. Products to Sale
 - d. Table/ABR QTR Mtg

General discussion centered on need for consistency of presentation, recordkeeping and quality control. It was suggested that we create a free workshop to educate future participants of product booths to better understand 1) what sells; 2) appropriate uses (of fiber); and 3) quality control. A key point was to encourage products that emphasize the quality and best attributes of alpaca fiber. Attention should be paid to putting our best foot forward in introducing alpaca product to a first time public. The Fiber Committee will undertake to draft minimum standards for fiber art products and judging. It was suggested that we review info already in place for Estes Park Product Booth. Sue/ Billie/Barb and Mary will pursue further.

Fiber Committee will resume practice of having a display table at ABR Quarterly Meetings to showcase alpaca products, new and interesting uses.

Setting up rules/guidelines for travel authorization, reimbursements, gas needs further discussion to take the Fiber Product Booth on the road.

8. Schedule of Meetings 12:05-12:30

- a. Use of Envite.com
- b. As Yahoo Group
- c. On-line: public/member only

Meetings will be scheduled on alternating weekday evening and weekends to try to accommodate as many members as possible, in addition to moving meeting sites around to cover north and south locations. Mary Madison to investigate option of creating a "mini-fiber committee" as a means for out of state members to participate and be part of fiber committee special projects.

Barb to check into what is needed to actually utilize our current web site to have public and member-only access to Fiber Committee minutes, meetings, activities, etc. also how to utilize group email/evite. Concerns were expressed for cost and privacy voiced in use of skype.

*Meeting schedule: Tuesday, September 14, 2010 6-8 pm. Mtg location: Tracy Adams
Sunday, October 17, 2010 1-3 pm Mtg location: Billie Rogers
Tuesday, November 16, 2010 6-8 pm Mtg location: Barb Ziek
Sunday, December 12, 2010 1-3 pm Mtg location to be determined
This mtg will be at a restaurant and include a gift exchange.*

All items on the agenda were covered as well as other topics important to the group.
Any questions or concerns, contact Mary or Barb by telephone or email.

In addition to managing the agenda I took notes which these minutes were constructed from. Any errors or omissions please note for the good of the order!

Mary Madison