

SSFC Meeting, March 24, 2017, Luekens Community Room. Present were Dennis Engebretson, Kathy Belt, Margo Hanson, Julie Zilka, and Karen Stormo

1. Kathy made the motion and Julie seconded that the meeting minutes from Jan. 20, 2017 be approved.
2. New board member introductions – welcome to Karen Stormo. Karen has 80 ewes, beef cattle, angora rabbits, and llamas. She has many creative interests as well as fiber. She's been involved for 3 – 4 years with the OPP research trial. New member Colleen Williams not present, possibly due to a questionable e-mail address. Larry Wookey sent word that he wouldn't be joining the Board.
3. Vote for Board of Directors Officers – Julie Zilka, Chairperson, Karen Stormo, Vice Chairperson, Alethea Kenney, Treasurer, Margo Hanson, secretary. The slate of officers was unanimously approved.
4. Treasurer's Report was given by Alethea. Balance as of 3-17-17 is \$5,316.86. The Sheep Event had \$1,478.44 in expenses. Income was \$725. This is not sustainable. Members discussed why numbers have dropped and how to draw more people in. About a dozen survey results were filled out. A copy of the survey will be filed with these minutes. No real conclusions could be drawn by the surveys.
5. 501 (c)(3) status was granted by the IRS, dated February 13, 2017. Our Employer Identification number is 81-4223061. This paperwork will be kept by the secretary. We can now open a checking account. We will choose a bank that has branches in multiple towns. Alethea will look for a convenient bank and set up an account. We will go with SFA figures even though they don't agree with ours. Two members will be able to sign checks but only one signature will be required. We will not open a savings acct. Forms will need to be updated to reflect SSFC, not SFA.
6. Insurance will be needed when we are independent of SFA. Alethea has a couple of estimates. \$396.00 for event insurance and \$450.00 for Board was one local quote. ASI insurance might be available – MN Lamb & Wool has insurance through ASI, \$100.00 is the annual fee to join MN Lamb & Wool. Karen Stormo will call ASI. Margo will call MN Lamb & Wool if necessary. SFA isn't insuring anyone until after July. Karen made the motion that we become a satellite of MN Lamb & Wool, Margo seconded. After discussion, the Motion was tabled until next meeting when more info will be available. We'll find out when the deadline for the annual publication is (*about May 1*) and can take an e-mail vote if needed. Karen suggested we send our information to MN Lamb & Wool. (*Note – Karen and Margo spoke with MN Lamb & Wool officers on April 1, while attending the Spring workshop in Minneapolis. They said that only events put on by ML & W can be insured by them.*)
7. 4-H event – April 29th - Will need to know if Trudy will be there for Youth Board applications. Kathy and Alethea will do weaving, crochet with Kathy (Margo will help), and quart size baggie wet felting with Margo & Kathy. (*Note – I assured*

- Refshaw's we would provide insurance. Is our insurance through SFA covering this or does 4-H insurance cover?)*
8. Selling at events – requires a lot of paperwork. Vendors at events other than FFF, can set up tables free of charge, and hand out information, but not sell. Venue for selling is the FFF. This rule will be put in our procedures and will be added to the bylaws and discussed next time.
 9. By Laws will be discussed next meeting, as we were running out of time. Conflict of interest was explained by Julie.
 10. Budgets were discussed and set for the 2017-2018 SSFC events.
 - a. 4-H Event - no cost
 - b. Beginning Shepherding - no cost
 - c. Fosston Fiber Festival – was allotted \$2,000.00. The FFF makes money. It could be held in a different location such as the Itasca Pioneer Village. Itasca and Park Rapids are a good draw. We need to find more sponsors. It is worth asking MNL&W and ASI. Community and Art are big draws for grants. One idea was to make a huge felted mural. Pros and cons of charging at the door were discussed.
 - d. Junior Board Internship Scholarships – allotted \$250 – 500.00
 - e. 2018 Small Scale Sheep Event (more discussion needed – no money allotted at this time)
 11. Our next meeting will be on April 21, 2017, 1:00 at Luekens.

Respectfully submitted by Margo Hanson, secretary, April 2, 2017