

Minutes for AGSS Board of Directors Special Meeting
October 26, 2018

Officers:

President Leah Hoenen: Present
Vice President Nancy Bentley: Present
Treasurer Teresa Daignault: Present
Secretary Jessica Duncan: Present
Eastern Director Jeff Ahlseen: Present
Central Director Heidi Quist: Present
Pacific Director Martin Dally: Present
Canada Director Veronica Verweij: Present

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PST by President Leah Hoenen.

Agenda:

1. Minutes from the January 13, 2018

The minutes from our previous meeting were distributed via email for review by the Board prior to this meeting. Heidi made a motion to accept the minutes, Veronica Seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report

Teresa distributed her report prior to the meeting for review by the Board. During the meeting she updated the current balance to \$1574, and reminded us that the fees for our non-profit filing in Oregon will be due soon.

Jessica made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, Heidi Seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. Election

The election for President, Secretary, Eastern Director, and Western Director will be held Nov 1 through Nov 11, 2018. Jessica is currently collecting biographies from nominees and preparing the ballot for distribution. Results will be announced to the winners Nov 12, and will be announced at the AGSS annual General Membership Meeting this winter.

4. Logo

Several members of the Board have heard concerns that our logo is difficult to reproduce clearly, and is not easily available for distribution to members. Jessica brought up the point that it has been the symbol of AGSS from its birth, and although it does need updating, we also need to keep it recognizable. After some discussion, the Board decided to poll AGSS members for any interest in designing a new logo. It was discussed that if there is interest from multiple members, a contest could be held, offering a free 2019 membership to the winner. Jessica will send an email inquiring about member interest to see if this is a feasible plan.

5. AGSS National Wool Show

The AGSS National Wool Show was held at the Wisconsin Sheep and Wool Festival, September 7-9, 2018. The show was organized by Heidi, and staffed by Heidi, Teresa, and Martin and Joy Dally. Thanks were extended to all involved for a very successful event. Heidi and Teresa reported that there was great interest in the fiber from the general public in every stage of the event, and a lot of interest was generated. WSW encouraged us to return for future events. A potluck was also held that allowed AGSS members to meet and greet. In general the show was a very positive event that promoted AGSS and Gotland sheep. Heidi will provide results of the judging to Jessica for distribution to AGSS members.

6. Future Wool Show Venues

Future wool shows were discussed. The general consensus was to attempt to hold the next AGSS National Wool Show at the Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival in 2020. AGSS member Lori Hynson has contacts on the Board of Directors for that event, and volunteered to contact them on behalf of AGSS regarding holding a wool show there in 2020 or later years. Jeff Ahlseen volunteered to be the AGSS Board of Directors contact regarding Maryland Sheep and Wool, and will work with Lori. Martin reminded us that AGSS traditionally contributes \$100 toward the judging fees for fleece competitions featuring AGSS fiber.

Jessica also mentioned that the 2019 Black Sheep Gathering (July 5-7, 2019), will be offering a Gotland class in their open fleece show for any interested in showing fleeces in 2019.

It was also discussed that AGSS members need a lot of advance warning for fleece shows to allow fleeces to be saved for the show.

7. Oregon Resident Agent

Teresa will be filing our non-profit renewal with the IRS and in Oregon (AGSS's state of origin) soon, and we need to have a designated Resident Agent. Martin Dally has fulfilled this role for many years, however, he will be leaving the Board this year, and it was generally agreed that a long-term solution should be found. Teresa has done some research and identified several companies that provide Resident Agent services for a small annual fee.

Jessica made a motion that Teresa find a suitable company to hire as our AGSS Oregon Resident Agent for a fee not to exceed \$100 annually. Jeff seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

8. Other:

The meeting was opened to other concerns.

- Martin requested exemption from the over-age (18-24 month) double registration fees due to a back-log of registrations generated during Joy's illness and subsequent complications. Jeff made a motion to allow Martin to register all sheep at the regular rate through December 31, 2018. Teresa seconded the motion, which carried all Aye's. Martin abstained from the vote.
- Teresa brought up the detail that Leah is currently the administrator on the AGSS bank account. Since she will be leaving office, a new administrator needs to be appointed. The general consensus of the Board was that administrative responsibility for our AGSS bank accounts should reside with the Treasurer, with oversight from the President and Secretary. Leah will go to her local branch and transfer administrative privileges to Teresa in the near future.

- Heidi inquired about online pedigree access, as well as registration services. Jessica recapped what she learned during previous inquiry with Associated Registry; they do not directly provide online services, but contract with an outside provider. In 2017 it would have cost AGSS roughly \$1500 to upgrade to online pedigrees and registration. Jessica assumed that the fee would still be in this range, or slightly increased. The Board is very supportive of working toward this upgrade, however, it is cost-prohibitive at this point. Teresa mentioned possibly asking AGSS members for donations to help us achieve this goal. It was decided to add this item to our agenda at the General Meeting. Jessica mentioned the possibility of developing a breed book or listing that might help with determining numbers of live, breeding Gotlands currently owned by AGSS members, but it was felt to be redundant in the face of online pedigrees.
- Veronica asked how AGSS can encourage member participation. General discussion included making events accessible to members, and encourage participation via example of the Board members via Facebook and fiber festivals.

9. General Membership Meeting

AGSS needs to hold its annual General Membership Meeting. After discussion, the Board decided to schedule this meeting for Nov 30, 2018 at 5:30 PST/8:30 EST. Current agenda items include announcing election results, presenting membership and registration statistics for 2018, and a financial summary for 2018. Further agenda items will be added as needed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Leah and seconded by Veronica, carried unanimously.
The meeting was adjourned at 6:44 PST