

AGSS Board of Directors Special Meeting
June 14, 2019

Officer's Roll:

President Heidi Quist: Present
Vice President Nancy Bentley: Present
Secretary Jessica Duncan: Present
Treasurer Teresa Daignault: Present
Eastern Director Jeff Ahlseen: Present
Canada Director Veronica Verweij: Present
Western Director Dana Salazar: Present
Central Director Rachel Green: Present

Guests: Closed

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 PM Pacific Standard Time by President Heidi Quist. This was a closed meeting of the Board during which topics raised during the May meeting were further discussed.

Agenda:

1. Breed Standard in Bylaws: After some discussion, during which the consensus was reached that we should make the Breed Standard part of the bylaws, and protect it from change as much as possible, Jessica made a motion that the Board draft a bylaw amendment adding the breed standard to the appropriate section of the bylaws, and worded in such a way that it would require a supermajority of Board members and AGSS members to change it. Jeff seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
2. New Member Voting Rights: Solutions to concerns raised during the last meeting about the independence and longevity of AGSS were discussed. Heidi made a motion that we draft an amendment to the bylaws stipulating that new members will have a one-year probationary period before they gain voting rights. Nancy seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.
3. AGSS/GSBANA Committee: The topic of a committee exploring the differences and relationships between the two Gotland breed registries was suggested at the last meeting. A detailed discussion developed, and Jeff summarized the differences he found between the two groups, the most important being more stringent Active Membership requirements on the part of GSBANA, and the fact that GSBANA allows the registration of brown Gotlands. Nancy suggested shortening the intervals between meetings, and the Board reached the consensus to table discussion of a committee until the next meeting.
4. Foundation Ewes: Jeff had several inquiries about how sheep from GSBANA are registered in AGSS, and why he couldn't find information in the up-breeding section. He was redirected to the Registration section and his questions were answered based on the current bylaws. In

addition, Veronica proposed establishing a registration window during which eligible GSBANA ewes could be established as breeding stock in AGSS, then closure of that window. After a lengthy discussion during which concerns were raised regarding older animals, or members who join after this window, a consensus was reached that this would be too exclusive.

5. Banner: Teresa was had difficulty reaching Phil Hershey at Groff's Printing regarding reprinting of a detailed AGSS Banner originally printed for Jeff and Christina Ahlseen for general use by AGSS. Jeff was able to provide a phone number to Teresa. Providing a simple reproducible banner template was also discussed. Jessica made a motion to authorize printing of a simplified VistaPrint logo banner for \$150 or less, and an AGSS- owned banner from Groff's Printing for \$150 or less. Jeff and Dana both seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
6. Other:
 - a. Veronica raised the concern that AGSS could be used for "ram dumping", as had been observed at some sales. She proposed requiring a minimum number of ewes to be registered for each ram. Dana raised the concern that this could discourage small flocks, and Jessica questioned how it would be handled when members have a large crop of ram lambs that need to be registered to sell, and that registering ram lambs is not equivalent to "dumping" a large number of excess rams at a sale. A consensus was reached that this problem has not been observed to date, and the issue would be tabled until (and if) a problem is noted.
 - b. Teresa reported on a recent trip to Gotland Island. They were able to attend a presentation by the head of the Gotland Sheep Farmer's Association, as well as visiting (stunning and inspiring) farms where Gotland sheep are raised. Teresa reported that their biggest emphasis is on pelt quality (which isn't affected by white on the heads and feet), and that the farmers on Gotland are facing challenges controlling parasites (esp. ticks) and the diseases they transmit.

The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, September 4th at 5:30 Pacific/8:30 Eastern

At 6:57 Pacific time, Jessica made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Veronica 2nd, and the motion carried unanimously.