

AGSS Annual General Meeting held on October 24, 2023

Roll Call:

President - Jeff Ahlseen: Present
Vice President - Heidi Quist: Present
Treasurer Rachel Green: Present/
Secretary Debra Drake: Present/NA
Eastern Director - Laura Chandler -Present
Central Director Nancy Bentley: Present
Western Director - Terrisue Harvey: Absent
Canadian Director Jenn Bowes: Absent

Members Attending

Teresa Daignault
Martin Dally
Al Drennan
Kirsten Simons
Stephanie Schiffgens
Christee McNeil
Kym Lauriello

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Roll Call
3. Update from the Secretary
4. Update from the Treasurer
5. New Business -
 - a. Accepting nominations for Board of Directors - Jeff
 - b. Issues and concerns - who's the POC (online registration vs pedigree review)
 - c. Fleece Show & Sale (Ram, Ewe, Lamb, White)
6. Old Business:
 - Update on the conversation had to add DNA testing
 - Events promoting Gotland Sheep & upcoming Sheep Festivals
 - Update on Fiber Festival Breed Displays hosted by AGSS Members
7. Q & A - if time allows
8. Adjourn

The President opened the meeting with roll call at 8:05 PM ET; a quorum was present. Casual conversation was had until the meeting was called to order.

The Secretary - presented the Membership report

The Treasurer presented the financial statements as of September 31, 2023

Nancy filed a motion to approve the Secretary and Treasurer's report, Laura 2nd, the motion carried.

New Business:

1. Nominations for Board positions - will close on October 31st. The Secretary will send out voting ballots to AGSS voting members on November 1st. Voting will be open for 14 days. Upon closing and the votes tallied, the Secretary will email the election results to all members.
2. Nancy Bentley had a problem in registering her sheep online and would like to know who to reach out to for resolving online registration. Suggests putting on the website who to reach out to for various problems.

Action Item: Rachel to post the POCs for problem resolution on the AGSS website.

- Online registration difficulties - Rachel
 - Pedigree review - Do my sheep meet AGSS Breeding Standards - Debra
3. **Fleece Show & Sale** - Martin Dally noted that a few yearling fleece were disqualified at NY S & W, because they had the lamb curl on the tip. Recommends going forward that the following note:
 - Lamb fleece - must have the lamb curl tip
 - Yearling fleece - does not have the lamb curl tip
 4. Pricing of fleece - recommend it be noted that changes in fleece prices must be channeled through the POC in charge of the show & sale. A few at NY S & W prices were changed w/out Mary's approval.

Old Business:

1. DNA Testing for animals born from Embryo Transfer - Presented by Laura Chandler
 - a. Reviewed research findings and
 - b. The decision by the Board not to implement parentage testing at this time
2. Festival Gotland Breed Displays
 - a. Shepherd's Harvest Festival - Heidi
 - b. Wisconsin Sheep & Wool Festival - Heidi
 - c. MD S&W Festival - Debra
 - d. NY S&W Festival - Jeff & Nancy
3. Future event opportunities to promo the Gotland Breed at various festivals across the country - Heidi reviewed potential <https://www.thatchedroofcottage.com/2023-fiber-arts-festivals-across-the-us>

Questions - no questions were put forward

The next meeting will be November 21st, 8:00 PM ET

A motion was made to adjourn by Heidi, Jeff 2nd the motion. Motion carried.