

## July 12, 2020 CGA Board Minutes

**Attendees:** Wendy Pieh, Pam Haendle, Elyse Perambo, Danielle Fowler, Sister Mary Elizabeth Garrett, JoAnne Wirtz-Ryan, Heidi Dickens, Cameron Drew Falkowski

**Absent:** Heide Krause, , Heidi Dickens, Christine McBrearty-Hulse , David DelamaterII

Guest: Ron Fiorica, NW Cashmere Goat Association President

Pam called the meeting to order at 7:40

1. Elyse requested to amendment to the June minutes. These changes included tax information and the use of Gail Hubbard's legal resources. Gail sent work agreement to CGA. Elyse will send this copy to Christine to file.

JoAnne motion to passed minutes with the noted amendments. Heidi D. seconded.

### **2. Treasurer Report Submitted -Elyse Perambo**

**Present Balance: \$5,680.14**

Joanne W. motioned to approve treasurer report. Danielle F. seconded.

Four new memberships came in through the old PayPal site. Elyse contacted PayPal and left them a message about closing the account. Pam originally opened the account with an old working email that no longer exist. The past treasurer received an email from Elyse and she responded that she has been trying to close the account but does not have the approval to do so.

Yvonne's name is on the old bank account that is connected to the old PayPal account. Wendy will contact Yvonne about closing the bank account that the old PayPal account is linked to. Elyse will send Wendy information (bank acct. number etc.) to give to Wendy.

#### **6/15/20-7/12/20 Treasurer Report**

Memberships

3 -new via paypal 86.49

3-reoccurring memberships via old paypal  
86.49

Bank fee-monthly paper report -3.00

USPS mailing tax info to Gail Hupper -7.85

USPS Mailing Facebook Winners Prizes -10.60

1 refunds caused by old paypal site -30.00

Totals for month 172.98 -51.45

Current bank balance \$ 5,680.14

### **3. Database/Membership**

Pam has made the request to Jeremy, our database programmer, to make the necessary changes that would allow old goats who have been evaluated to be entered. Pam is waiting to hear back.

A meeting occurred this past week to discuss what necessary data would be required if the EU were to participate in the CGA database. The numbers look small. There may need to be a change in the structure of their herd code, but they have a set of numbers that the government uses that helps to identify farms. The database may have to adapt the herd code length and identify how to sort EU and US goats within the database. Pam expressed cost concerns. Jeremy will be asked to provide a cost for the potential scope of work. Pam discussed how to make EU herd codes like ours, but more discussion will be necessary. Preserving their province and country code within the herd code for database may be an option.

### **3. Texas A & M Research Project**

Heidi did send an email out to Langston involving CGA's letter of commitment. Heidi is waiting to hear back.

Pam asked Heidi to write an article regarding the proposed research project for Hoofprints. Ideas on how to get the number of goats we need for the research was discussed.

Pam noted that Becky Bemus gave input on the idea of the testing occurred either through site lo/or have all samples sent to a few locations so they could be sent to Langston and cations and be put directly in the database

Heidi thinks that maybe this might be harder for Texas A & M because they use email for all results and often, she has had to cross reference her specimen sample number makes sure they were correct.

Heidi reminded the board to consider the possibility the grant not get approved and moving too fast to get numbers with now end point.

Sister Mary shared that she saw that there was a place in Montana also testing fiber. JoAnne believes they only do wool. Indeed, the State University of Montana only does wool according to their website, thus leaving Texas A & M the only US location testing cashmere for privately owned farms.

### **4. Committee Check Ins**

- **Judging Committee-** Cameron had nothing to report with the currant COVID status.

Eastern and Northern Massachusetts locations are possible locations. One location would have a fee for location use for \$750.00 the other is TBD. (2021)

- **Shows** –Sister Mary Elizabeth would like to move in the direction of a virtual show with videos for a time October. Sister shared that Cornell Cooperative is just now releasing their NYS 4- H guidelines for virtual shows.
- **Rhinebeck Committee**- Elyse is waiting for feedback from Gail H. as to whether we should move forward with a virtual sales booth. Wendy did receive an email that Rhinebeck would like vendors to look at virtual platforms. Elyse shared that she would not have the time to put into the Rhinebeck virtual shop since she is working with Gail on a full 1023 in order for CGA to get back on track as a nonprofit. Wendy offered records that her and Pam may have from 5 years back include bylaws.
- **Social Media / Education**- Danielle shared that there is an increase in followers and likes. The picture contest this month is around unusual cashmere colors. Danielle reached out to Wendy and Pam about how to connect regarding the database in terms of color as well as cross referencing what was covered at the Cornell conference presentation. Pam shared that we do not have a document about color except from an article from Hoofprints. The Facebook post will refer to guard hair colors. However, we could also create a chart to show examples of guard hair colors, correct terminology, and cashmere colors. Heidi will be willing to share her felted chart of cashmere colors for Facebook and Hoofprints. Point being guard hair and cashmere color are different.

Danielle shared that 25% of the social traffic is from Italy. They also won this month's FB contest. There is 4x more traffic from Italy than Canada.

## 5. Northwest Show

Ron will get back to use with more information to Wendy regarding the show plan for the Fall.

## 6. Other:

A discussion occurred of how a membership requirement for database entry would affect the value of a memberships or possibly charging higher fee to use the database for non-members. You can print your own certificate. The database was free to data into the database. Heidi recommended the idea that membership be required database entry. There is possibility that there could be reciprocal agreement with Northwest. There are

only presently two farms in the database that are not members. Cameron would like the board to consider ways to increase membership through the database. Heidi and JoAnne agreed that paying adds value to what CGA offers.

**7. Next meeting August 9<sup>th</sup> @7:30**

**8. Meeting adjourned 8:40**