

June 6th 2021 CGA Board Minutes

Attendees: Wendy Pieh, Pam Haendle, Danielle Fowler, Christine McBrearty-Hulse, David S. DeLaMater, JoAnne Wirtz-Ryan, Heidi Dickens, Gareth Crosby, Emily Clark, Sister Mary Elizabeth, Ron Fiorica, Tatiana Stanton

Wendy called the meeting to order at 7:35

Call to approve the June minutes. Pam asked that the language used to describe the database discussion be changed to reflect *that both co-owners of a goat will now be able to make changes to the information on that goat.*

JoAnne made a motion to pass the minutes. Danielle seconded the motion.

2. Treasurer Report Submitted -Elyse Perambo

Present Balance: \$\$ 7,911.56

5/17/21-6/6/21	Income	Costs	
3 membership via paypal	\$ 86.49		
State of VT certified papers		\$ 25.00	
GoDaddy annual fee		\$ 27.17	
bank paper statement fee		\$ 3.00	
Income	\$ 86.49		
Total fees		\$ 55.17	
Bank balance as of 6/7/21	\$ 7,738.59		
Paypal deposit moved	\$ 172.98		
projected balance after 6/9/21	\$ 7,911.56		

*Elyse was unable to attend. The above report was submitted and accepted.

3. Database

Pam confirmed that the updates that allow co-ownership of a goat have been added, as well as the ability for both owners to edit information on that goat.

4. Langston University Research Project

Heidi reported that the project has been approved and Langston will be touch with her shortly on how to proceed with CGA's assistance.

5. Texas A & M Lab Research Project

Danielle shared that Texas A & M will begin the process of gathering cashmere fiber samples from farms to perform comparable testing with the OFDA 100 and OFDA 2000. They are proposing that 3 snippet samples from 50 goats as the research sample size. There will be no cost to CGA for this research which will involve a great deal of time. Wendy volunteered to offer fiber samples from her catalog of samples from the past 10 plus years. Most of these samples have already been tested by Yocum McCall, giving CGA another cross reference regarding the validity of testing numbers.

6. Educational Seminars

Danielle has been in touch with MICROCHIP ID SYSTEMS, INC. a microchip company that she presently uses on her own goats. The USA 840-ID™ Mini Microchip is approved by the USDA, mini chips are certified by the USDA for performance, reliability and readability, as well as it is meeting the USDA Scrapie Eradication guidelines.

Danielle was aware that the pack goat group is also looking for guidance on this topic and proposed that we possible co-host the speaker event with them. Christine will reach out to Curtis King, president of the North American Packgoat Association to propose this idea for the upcoming program.

An offshoot discussion occurred with questions revolving around the noted recommendations by the USDA. Sister Mary Elizabeth was aware of from her past research on this topic that microchipped goats must have a corresponding tattoo to visually signal their identity. Potential issues were raised regarding when goats are sold with microchips, without out a visual ID, and the potential for losing them in the system. Dr. tatiana Stanton of the Cornell University Small Ruminant Extension, shared that Scrapies is very uncommon but does occur. Tattoos are still common and accepted as marking a goat's identity. Danielle shared that the American Dairy Goats Association is heading in the direction of not requiring tattoos to accompany microchipping for a goat's identification record. The microchip presentation will be a good discussion on a very relevant topic to CGA and its members.

Dates that will be proposed for this presentation are June 24th and July 8th.

8. Committee Check Ins

Show Committee- The Vermont Sheep and Wool Festival will host the CGA show this year. (October 1st-3rd) It is also our year to host the fiber show. Wendy Pieh will be the judge for both shows. CGA will continue to offer fleece judging for those who want their fleeces evaluated and not in the actual show (\$5.00 fee per fleece) Sister Mary Elizabeth will provide the show details to Emily for the August issue of Hoofprints. Pam agreed to be the fleece show chair. The fleece show will occur Friday, October 1st. Christine offered to help on Friday with

the fleece show. Volunteers are welcomed to come assist with the fleece show, as well as learn how fleeces are evaluated!

Ron is looking for a judge on behalf of the North West Cashmere Goat Association that can judge both angora and cashmere to combine shows and save money. Names of potential candidates included: Wini Labrecque and reaching out to Joe David Ross for referrals. Christine will pass along contact information to Ron.

Fundraising- Donated items will be gathered by Christine for a Chinese auction in which tickets are sold to place in the jars of the corresponding items one wishes to win at the Vermont Sheep & Wool Festival.

Judging Committee – Meeting to occur on June 17th @ 7:30

9. Social Media

Danielle shared that the CGA's Facebook page hit 800 followers! Winner Claudia Bohle from Switzerland was our last month's photo contest winner. Danielle revisited the question with the board about how to respond to those who wish to sell goats through the CGA's platform. Wendy will reach out to our lawyer, Gail H., to consult on how this might affect our non-for-profit status as an educational organization. Gail is also reviewing our bylaws for necessary updates.

tatiana recommended a breed directory as a reference for goats for sale. We presently have a breed directory on the website.

10. Other Business

- tatiana inquired about information from the association on how to show a cashmere goat. She would like to provide this information on the Cornell Youth website under the category of fiber animals. Various 4-H groups are looking for tutorial show information regarding fiber animals, in particular cashmere goats. Wendy referred tatiana to the Estes Park Show in Colorado, where there seem to be many youth shows with cashmere goats. A future initiative for CGA might be pre-training workshop for youth on how to show a cashmere goat. Emily shared that there is very little education on this topic in her area of Indiana for youth. Christine proposed creating a subcommittee composing of 4-H youth leaders throughout the county that could create these resources .

10. Next meeting July 11 @7 :30 PM

11. Meeting adjourned 8:35

