

Cashmere Goat Association (CGA)
Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 12th 2025 **Time:** 7:30 PM **Location:** Virtual (Zoom)

Executive Summary

The board approved reimbursements, reviewed finances, and debriefed the Adirondack/Washington County Fair shows. A key policy change was adopted for fleece show entries (bag vs. entry data must match or the entry is disqualified). Planning moved forward for Rhinebeck participation, the Cornell Sheep & Goat Symposium, **Hoof Prints** submissions, a potential webinar, Goat Expo 2026 prep, and the **Annual Meeting set for Sunday, Nov 16** (time TBC).

Attendees (roll call heard)

Elyse Perambo (chair), David & Mary (Doe Haven Farm), Cody Sargent (Aisling Farms), Kathy Ashland (Hens & Hounds), Nadya/Nadia Peña (Catalan Farm), Jane (ME2 Farm), Tatiana, Pam Marshall, Mike Pierce, Ron Fiorica (NWCA), Dorothy McClure.

Motions & Decisions

- **Approve September minutes:** Passed.
- **Reimbursements:**
 - **Pam's travel (show lodging + flight): \$916 — approved.**
 - **Cody's fleece returns shipping: \$233.10 — noted/approved for payment queue.**
- **Treasurer's Report:** Accepted (see figures below).
- **Fleece Show Policy (NEW):** If information in the entry/confirmation does not match the label in the bag, the fleece is disqualified. Owners are responsible for accurate data. This will be stated boldly on the entry form and in confirmations. Past misplacement this year will stand; change applies going forward.

Finances (Pam)

- 9/13 balance: **\$14,038.87**
- Activity: 1 new membership; PayPal fees **\$4.73**; Brad's check **\$270** cashed; 22 fleece entries **\$220**; PayPal balance **\$340.01**; checking **\$13,674.13** → **Total \$14,014.14**.
- **Available now: \$12,956.04** (pending: \$300 Doehaven bedding/hay; \$525 judging fee; \$233.10 fleece returns; \$50 PayPal request out).
- Cornell sponsorship went out last month.
- Next month's report will be full-year (annual meeting).

Shows & Events

Adirondack/Washington County Fair (Show & Fleece)

- Strongest attendance in years; momentum to keep venue if cooperation improves.

- Facility/contacts: Prior confusion (no-buck rule, duplicate entry sheets, 3 CGA contacts). Fair's GM Sarah wants to be single point of contact and start planning Nov/Dec. Option: CGA "rents facility" model (clear control but likely lose fair-paid premiums).
- Process improvements: Single superintendent/clear roles; maintain the sticker/code system Elyse created; require prepaid return labels for shipped fleeces; maintain a sign-out log for picked-up fleeces.

Rhinebeck (this weekend)

- 5 farms confirmed to send product.
- 2 volunteers so far; more booth sitters welcome (watching stock helps).
- Elyse may have extra wristbands (exhibitor/booth); coordinate gate meet-up if helping.

Cornell Sheep & Goat Symposium

- Dates noted as Fri Oct 31 – Sun Nov 2 (primary day Sat Nov 1).
- Hotel blocks: Ithaca Oct 10 deadline; Cortland Oct 15 deadline.
- CGA (as sponsor) can have a display table; okay to staff intermittently but avoid valuables.
- Ideas: brochures + interest sign-up sheet, "Ask an Expert" slot for cashmere, a bound youth showmanship manual copy on table.
- Logistics: Mail material to Barbara Jones, 102 Morrison Hall (per form). Tatiana/Jess can help place materials if boxes arrive early.

Goat Expo (Sedalia)

- Dorothy connecting with Rochelle to improve organization (clear time slots, vendor area).
- Last year was a hit (~50 kids across dairy/meat groups). Consider a cashmere judging talk/class and youth activities.

Publications, Social & Webinars

Hoof Prints

- **Submissions due to Cody by Fri, Nov 15.** Target publish: **late Nov / early Dec.**
- Ads: Coordinate who paid/which size . Pam to send contact list/status to Cody.

Social Media (Nayda)

- Post show results (with note clarifying the one class/year issue).
- Promote board openings and VP vacancy; ask for candidate bios by early November; preference for people already engaged with CGA.

Webinar

- Mike Pierce to reconnect with Dr. Nancy (WA). Backup: scout speakers at Cornell. Mike welcomes support if needed.

Judges

- Judging cards issued to certified judges (valid through 2028).
- Consider info at Cornell table on becoming a cashmere judge; print/bind youth showmanship manual for display.

Governance & Elections

- Board seats: Kathy stepping down (remaining member); Michael TBD; Tatiana & Jane up for re-election.
- Vice President seat open; interested members submit short bios for ballot to be sent to membership.

Annual Meeting

- **Date: Sunday, November 16.**
- Format: Open Annual Meeting for members, then separate Zoom link for the closed Board meeting (tallies/approvals).
- Time: Elyse to confirm (historically ~6:30–8:30 pm).
- Bylaws check on allowing prospective members to observe the Annual (Zoom logistics considered).

Action Items

- **Pam:** Execute approved reimbursements; prepare **year-end Treasurer's report**; send ad payer list/status to Cody.
- **Cody:** Coordinate **single-fair POC (Sarah)**; collect **Hoof Prints** content; attend Cornell (share learnings).
- **Elyse:** Share CGA pamphlets/banners/stickers; finalize **Rhinebeck** wristbands/gate logistics; **confirm Annual Meeting time**; draft bold **policy notice** for fleece entries; check **bylaws** re: Annual attendees.
- **Nayda:** Post **show results**; craft **VP/board seat** call with bio deadline; share **symposium** link + parking/map; possibly recruit an “Ask an Expert.”
- **Tatiana:** Provide symposium links/logistics; explore having CGA **table**; print/bind a **showmanship manual** display copy.
- **Dorothy (w/ Pam):** Meet Rochelle on **Goat Expo** 2026 planning; propose structured schedule; report back.
- **All:** Submit **Hoof Prints** articles/ads by **Nov 15**; consider volunteering at **Rhinebeck**; identify **webinar** speaker candidates at Cornell.

Next Meeting:

Annual Meeting set for Sunday, Nov 16 7:30 CT