

West Plains Beekeepers Association

May 20th, 2016

Pizza Factory, Medical Lake, WA.

5:55-6:15 PM Education by Jim Miller, "Caucasian Bees from May 9th and Splitting Hives".

6:17-7:30 Education by Brandon Hopkins PhD, WSU. "WSU Breeding and Varroa control and research".

7:30 the meeting was called to order by President Don Richter.

44 members were in attendance, with 4 officers.

Secretary's minutes were approved as written online.

Treasurer's report and membership was read by Sherry.

Committee Reports

Education Committee

- Ellen reported that the association participated in three events and it went quite well: At the Earth Day event we had about 25 people sign up for emails. At the Garden Expo 9 people signed up; and at Cheney May Fest another 9 signed up.
- On June 18th, at the Medical Lake Founders Day, we need volunteers for the event that takes place across the street from the Pizza Factory.
- On June 4th, the Deer Park association 'Backyard Beekeepers', needs help with leadership at the event there held by Fire District #9. The association has volunteers. Ellen and Jack volunteered.
- Sandy Fanara has been asked to teach beekeeping to four Kindergarten classes at Moran Prairie Elementary sometime (weather permitting) in June.
- Otis Orchard Library contacted us regarding 1 hr classes. More information coming.
- Priest River Library is having an event given by the Geigers, tomorrow. All welcome.
- Jim Miller reported that the Airway Heights Corrections Center now has a few hives (from Jim) on their property. He is organizing a program, there, to start this Fall.
- A new beginner class is starting June 8th, for four Wednesday evenings. Info on our web page.
- Jim reported that there may be some upcoming changes to the WASBA Master beekeeping classes. He plans on attending the next WASBA meeting this next Saturday, and anticipates several changes to the current bylaws and procedures within the organization.

Publicity Committee

- Please see Ellen if you would like any posters/flyers for events or advertising.

Research Committee

- Kevin reported that tomorrows hive inspection at the High School has been postponed to June 11th.
- Kevin reported that the shop teacher at the High School is engineering a controlled environment shed for the High School hives.
- There was no update with the EWU program.

- Walla Walla Penetentiary now have hives, but have not proceeded with classes through us.

Website committee

- No news.

Demo Hive Committee

- Jack reports that the demo hive has not been built, but the materials are in hand.

Old Business

- It was moved after discussion, to form a finance committee consisting of the current treasurer and three other members. The motion passed. Committee members are Sherry, Sandy Fanara, Marilyn Geiger, and Searri Shipman.
- Next month is election of officers for 2016/2017. Please continue to bring nominations to Don and/or Jack. So far, the following have been nominated: Ellen Miller for President, Marilyn Geiger for VP, Sherry Hession and Joe Miller for Treasurer, and Brian Rasko for Secretary. Sherry asked to be removed from the list.
- Jim reported that for the new class in June, we need to print booklets for the students, but there is no budget in place to do so. It was moved that \$100 be set aside for as many booklets to be printed as needed. Motion passed.

New Business

- Brian Rasko is to head a committee to investigate the formation of a club apiary.
- Ellen asked Sandy Fanara and Cathy Richter to look into things like stickers, or ? for "Bee Helpers"...supporters of honeybees who are not beekeepers.
- The association officers will be meeting to create a budget for the upcoming association year. The budget will be voted on for ratification by the membership in June.

Announcements

- None

7:49PM The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Sandy Fanara, Secretary