

West Plains Beekeepers Association

November 17, 2017

Pizza Factory, Medical Lake, WA

- 6pm-6:30pm** Social Hour
- 6:30pm-7:10pm** Education Program: Dr. Jenifer Walke from EWU talked about her graduate research at Virginia Tech about the microbiome in bees' guts and how it affected bee health.
- 7:10pm** Meeting called to order by Ellen Miller @ 7:00pm

**Approval of the October Meeting minutes:** Motion made by Jim Miller, 2<sup>nd</sup>, approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Kevin Ryan – nothing new to report. Approximately \$4,000 in the bank currently.

**Education:**

- Spring Beginning Beekeeping will be on 3/10, 3/17 and 3/25.
- Jim Miller will hold a Journeyman class in February and March (6 weeks) on Wednesday evenings.

**Publicity:**

- New brochures printed
- Ellen has been working on a local "bee-friendly" brochure. Club hopes to connect with ReImagine Medical Lake after the first of the year.

**Research:**

- Kevin Oldenburg reported that he had spoken to Dr. Jenifer Walke about a new research project regarding bee feeding and their guts' microbiome.
- WSU returned the bee samples that were sent there for testing after the club's prior research project. WSU provided information about the samples' varroa count but no other information. Kevin O. reported that these samples may be compared against samples from the new research project.

**Airway Heights Correctional Center:** Jim Miller – the project continues to go well. Jim and Joe and the folks at AHCC have completed the new Journeyman manual. Jim has sought guidance from the WaSBA and has offered to present the manual in person but has not heard anything from them.

**EWU Sustainability Project:** Nothing new. Kevin was going to reach out to the students again.

**Website:** Jenifer P. made some requests for some changes, which will be made.

**NW Bee Festival:** Jenifer Priest reported that Jenifer Walke had joined her committee. The new date for the conference is 2/9/19, and they want to invite the “Bee Girl” to be the keynote speaker. The next meeting will be 12/13, and anyone interested is asked to participate.

**Washington State Beekeepers Association:** There was a meeting on 11/11/17. 5 board positions are available. Gary Cluett will continue as president.

**Grant to EWU:** The club had voted to send \$500 to EWU for bee research, and the club agreed that Dr. Walke, who is researching bees, should be the recipient. Dr. Walke volunteered to find out to whom the club needs to send the money to ensure that it gets to the correct place.

**Request to adjourn:** Motion to adjourn was made at 7:50pm

Submitted by:

Margo Buckles (for Jan Lawrence, secretary)