

## West Plains Beekeepers Association

October 20, 2017

Pizza Factory, Medical Lake, WA

**6pm-6:30** Social Time Talking about Bees

**6:30pm** **Educational Program:** Brian Raska, talked about bees in the winter. And then Scott Holbrook demonstrated how to level a hive.

**7:00pm** Meeting Called to order by Ellen Miller @ 7:34pm

**Approval of September Meeting minutes:** Motion approved by Kevin Oldenburg, second by Marilyn Geiger, approved.

**Treasures Report:** (Kevin Ryan)- No Changes, \$4,500.00 have paid bills and everything is staying normal.

### Committee Reports:

**Education Committee:** (Marilyn Geiger and Margo Buckles) Margo talked about meeting with Jenifer Walke from EWU. She will be presenting the November program on her bee gut research.

The December meeting will be @ Buckles/Oldenburg home: Pot Luck and showing the movie More than Honey

**Beginning Beekeeping Classes:** November classes November 4, 11 & 18, 2017 and March 3, 17 & 25, 2018

**Educational Programs:** Ellen is working on the beta testing of the beginning beekeepers class for the Washington State Beekeepers Association. We will be test driving a Beginning Beekeepers Manual. Since the beta version is not yet approved by the Washington State Beekeepers Association, both the current WASBA test and the beta manual test will be offered to the students.

Talked about the cost of printing the new manuals. Until they are ready for commercial printing. Suggestion was made to keep them all online. They are working out all the details for the cost of the class and once the revised curriculum is approved by WASBA, we will be able to have a better idea of the actual cost of the materials. In the meantime Jack and Ellen are willing to print the materials. Motion was made to reimburse Ellen and Jack for the cost of printing of the beta manuals of \$250.00, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Scott Holbrook and passed.

Jim is working on a beta test program for the journeymen program with the Airway Heights Correctional Center apprentice beekeepers as well.

**Publicity:** Margo Buckles suggested if you know anyone who wants to take the classes please let them know about it.

**Research Report:** (Kevin Oldenburg) – Kevin met with Jenifer Walke and they are going to do another experiment. They are in the process of writing grants and they are going to make up a synthetic nectar and compare that to feeding the bees pure sugar. Jenifer has the ability to look at the microbes in the bee gut. The 2<sup>nd</sup> thing they are working on is getting the experiment results back from the first experiment from WSU bee diagnostic lab so they can compare these results with the new experiment's results.

**EWU Sustainability:** (Kevin Oldenburg) – They had 4 hives at EWU one was killed by Yellow Jackets and the other is really weak; Kevin doesn't think it will make it. The other two are nice and strong. Kevin and Margo pulled them back to their house because there are no wind breaks out at EWU. Ellen and Kevin met with the Sustainability students and they seemed really interested in doing more. Hopefully they can get a class going out there.

**Airway Heights Correctional Center:** (Jim Miller) - Ellen talked about Jim's beginning classes and what they are working on. Jim has the students who are interested in their journeyman status, working on creating a beta version of the journeyman handbook. There will be two test A test and B test. They are putting together a teacher's outline. It should be ready to test by the end of the year.

**Airway Heights Ordinance Report:** (Margo Buckles) Marilyn has contacted AH councilman who expressed interest in making changes to their ordinances. Nothing new to report there.

**Website:** (Jack Miller) Survey by Emily Sherman is now on the website. Check the website for this survey Map of the local beekeepers.

**Washington State Beekeepers Association:** (Ellen Miller) – developing a revised curriculum for beginning beekeepers that will be tested at our November classes. The annual membership meeting including the election of officers will be on Nov 11<sup>th</sup> at 4pm -6 pm. An announcement to all WASBA members has been sent out with instructions on how to participate in the on-line meeting.

**Annual Meeting/Conference:** (Jenifer Priest) – EWU facility; November 2018 if you're interested in helping get in touch with Jenifer. Looking at calling it the Northwest Bee Festival. Looks like November is not going to be a good time. Looking at different dates. Looking at idea for the festival and what to offer. The committee is meeting again Nov 6<sup>th</sup>.

**WSU Bee Lab- Update** (Ellen Miller) How many sent in samples of their bees? Please contact Ellen if you have sent in samples but haven't gotten a reply. Working with the state to get this corrected.

**New Business:**

**Good of the Order:**

Master Gardeners(Spokane) Fall Banquet with Rich Hatfield, Xerces Society: November 2, 4- 8:30 Lincoln Center; \$40.00

**Request to adjourned @ 8.23pm** by Kevin Oldenburg

Submitted by,  
Jan Lawrence

Edited by,  
Ellen Miller