

West Plains Beekeepers Association

April 20, 2018

Pizza Factory, Medical Lake

6:00 Social time

6:30 Educational Program: Mary Brodahl - Neighbors and Bees

Meeting called to order at 1915

Minutes were approved from March meeting motion to approve Joe Miller, second Lorraine

Treasurer's report: Kevin Ryan. On budget, insurance has been paid.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee

- ❖ Journeyman Class - 18 students in the course, 15 completed the test
- ❖ Beginning Beekeeping Class: 24 tests completed. Do not have reports back from the state yet.
- ❖ Joe and Lincoln Miller were at Girl Scout meeting went very well, had a good time. They brought a bee suit, took a frame of honey which was a hit.
- ❖ Volunteers are still needed for some of the community events WPBA will be attending this spring/summer.
- ❖ 5/12 Cheney Mayfest - all volunteer slots have been filled. Event is from 10am-4pm. Joe Miller will be in charge and would appreciate help packing up.
- ❖ 5/24 Second graders at Liberty Lake Park; 54 students in 6 groups, 30 minutes per group 3 hour session
- ❖ 6/1 West Central Community at Cannon Park 2:30-7pm still need volunteers
- ❖ 6/2 Mobius 9:30-2pm Jack and Ellen need some help
- ❖ 6/9 Herbal Fair at Unity Spiritual Center on Bernard Set up at 9 am will run from 10am to 4pm. still need volunteers, and need help to take down the booth.
- ❖ 6/16 Medical Lake Founders Day 10am-4pm quite a few people have signed up to volunteer
- ❖ August Airway Heights Festival and Car Show 10am-4pm

Publicity:

- ❖ Margo reported that Ellen has put together a pamphlet on how to help bees - Honey Bees & Native Pollinators: What can I Do to Help? This will be available at the club's various events and will be provided to Re-Imagine Medical Lake for distribution.

Research Report:

- ❖ Margo reported for Kevin. Kevin and Jenny have set up a repeat experiment of the one that Kevin previously did. There will be 16 hives, 8 at EWU. They are getting hives set up and are looking for a second area to place half of the test hives. Lorraine may be able to accommodate

the test hives on her property. Margo will discuss with her further. The experiment will look at bee health, what you feed bees, micro biome of the bee gut. At each location 4 hives will receive sugar water and 4 hives will receive artificial nectar. Help is needed to put bees into the test hives. Contact Margo if interested.

EWU Sustainability Report:

- ❖ Margo reported for Kevin. She was at Eastern for the Earth Day Fair and had good interaction with the students and interaction with the sustainability group.
- ❖ 155 acres to the west of EWU have been set aside to return farm land in the area back to native Palouse prairie. Will start in 2020.

Airway Heights CC and Walla Walla.

- ❖ Joe Miller reported that they lost 6 out of 8 hives over the winter. Joe went and put in 6 new packages of bees. Prisoners were not well organized so he did not have help. An account needs to be set up so that they can access funds donated from the club. There are limits on amount of funds they can accept on a monthly basis.

Website Report:

- ❖ Jack Miller has reorganized the presentations on the website.

Annual meeting/conference:

- ❖ Margo reported on the committee meeting that was held on April 17, 2018. We have a verbal confirmation on the location at EWU, will be firmed up by October. Preliminary budget is being worked on. Work is being done to recruit help/funding from Backyard Beekeepers, and Inland Empire Beekeepers Association. WASBA has grants available and members from WPBA will be attending the other clubs meetings to provide information about the upcoming conference and possibility that they could also apply for grants to assist with the conference. Margo made a motion to submit a grant request of \$2000.00 to WASBA for the conference, Lorraine second. All in favor, no opposed.
- ❖ Joe Miller will be working on lining up vendors for the event.
- ❖ Plan is for 2 tracks - current beekeeping research and the second track will be other topics. 10 speakers will be needed for the conference, The Bee Girl will be the keynote speaker. The cost of The Bee Girl is about \$1500.00. Margo is researching to see if Mobius would be willing to partner with our conference and have The Bee Girl do a presentation for them and help with the cost of this speaker and if the Bee Girl would be willing to do a presentation at Mobius.
- ❖ Joe Miller brought forward that we need to have a name for the conference so that the students at EWU can start working in May on designs for the conference.
- ❖ Joe Miller made a motion to allow the committee to direct the class at EWU on this project. Marilyn G second. All in favor, no opposed

Old Business:

- ❖ To celebrate World Bee Day at the May 18th meeting bring honey treats/desserts.
- ❖ WASBA - Ellen reports Journeyman Beekeeping Course has been given to them for editing and acceptance. Still waiting for final acceptance of the beginning beekeeping manual. President will be resigning in May - per last report. No certifications back from WASBA

New Business:

- ❖ Ellen presented for Shari Townsend. She wanted to find out of people would be interested in planting Sainfoin. If so could get a bulk order and divide it up.
- ❖ There is a mentoring opportunity off of Highway 195. Joe and Lincoln may be able to do this.

Adjourn: 1956

Submitted

Marie Ellis, Secretary