

West Plains Beekeepers Association  
Minutes  
February 16, 2018

- Meeting called to order at 1907.
- Minutes were approved. It was announced that Jan Lawrence has resigned as secretary. Mellody Descoteaux agreed to serve as secretary for the meeting.
- Treasurer's Report: Currently have a large balance due to the upcoming Beekeeping Class. Even with deductions due to the class, the budget will be very healthy.
- Committee Reports:
  - Education Committee
    - Educational Programs: Diane Stutzman, Desert Jewels (March); Mary Brodhal, Beekeeping with Neighbors (April)
    - Journeyman classes have begun.
    - Second Year Refresher class – May
    - Sandpoint event by Jim Miller on 3/17. 4 hours of beginning beekeeping and 4 hours of advanced beekeeping. >100 signed up!
    - WPBK has developed two instructional references that are copyrighted. Copies available by order through the club at the March meeting:
      - Apprentice level instruction, available for \$10.
      - Journeyman level instruction, available for \$20.
    - Fair season is coming. Look for signups to participate!!!
  - Publicity Committee - Publicity for the Beekeeper Class is out.
  - Research Committee - More later
  - EWU Sustainability Report - More later. Class at EWU has not moved forward at this time.
  - Airway Heights cc and Walla Walla
    - The course ended this week. Books for the program were presented to the Superintendent, Vice Superintendent and Sargent. The Course covered Apprentice through Journeyman with an average score on the final of 91.2%. The students are very interested in continuing to a Masters Program.
    - A report to the DOC about the program will be sent with a recommendation to expand this effort throughout the Washington State DOC. One of the strengths for this recommendation is that this program is providing excellent preparation for working in the commercial beekeeping industry who is clamoring for suitable applicants.
  - Website - Nothing new to report.

- Annual Meeting/Conference
  - We need a new Conference Chair. A core group is also needed to organize the top key topics including, but not limited to, Publicity, Presentations, Tickets, Treasurer, etc. Activities for all ages is our goal.
  - Conference Date is 02/09/2019.
  - We need to make a do or die decision in March....
- Old Business
  - Reinvent Medical Lake – The group is actively moving forward with events and asked for the WPBK support. We can use our Bee Neighborhood brochure. More later.
  - Washington State Beekeepers Association – Nothing new to report.
- New Business
  - Nominating committee for Secretary will be led by Kevin. Slate will be presented and voted on in March.
  - UN World Bee Day is 05/20/2018. At this time we will not be supporting one event; however, all are encouraged to Be Bee that day! And we will encourage a “honey celebration” at our meeting in May suggesting that people bring desserts made with honey.
  - Donation to the AHCC apiary club for selling Journeyman manual.
    - Motion by Kevin Oldham and seconded by Joe Geiger: Split net proceeds from the sale of the Journeyman book 50/50 with the AHCC Apiary Club. Split percentage to be reviewed annually by WPBK.
    - Highlights of a lengthy discussion:
      - Prison needs to purchase equipment for their beekeeping program.
      - Sale of the Journeyman book nets our club \$5 per book with a production cost of \$15 per book.
      - Prison can establish accounts for inmates the control use of the funds for what was intended.
    - Motion PASSED.
- Motion to adjourn entered by Jim Miller, seconded by Kevin Oldenburg and passed at 1955.

Respectfully submitted,

Melody Descoteaux, Acting Secretary