

West Plains Beekeepers Association

DATE 11/16/2018

Pizza Factory, Medical Lake

6:00 pm Social time; talking to others about bees – how are your bees looking?

7:00 pm Educational Program: Tim Hiatt, WASBA Legislative Liaison

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Ellen Miller President

Minutes were approved from October meeting. Motion to approve Kevin O, second Joe Miller

Treasurer's report: Kevin Ryan. Account balance of \$4800.00. Last year ended with balance of \$4100.00. In and out about the same as last year. Kevin brought forward a proposed budget for 2019. Ellen Miller asked to have \$500.00 added to the 2019 budget for community programs. Peggy Clemons brought forward the River City Youth group and wondered if we should have some money set aside in the budget for them. Currently we have a letter of understanding with them and this would need to be changed if we gave them a monetary donation. This will be further researched.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee: Margo Buckles

- Educational Programs:
 - November 3, 10, 17 Beginning Beekeeping Class - going well, positive student feedback. A smaller group this time.
 - Ellen Miller will be providing the educational program for next month's meeting on the Native Pollinator Project.
 - Still need a speaker for January - please contact Margo if you are interested
 - February Kay Heinricks will speak about the sustainability program

Publicity: Margo

Nothing new to report

Research Report: Kevin Oldenburg

The bees are all in bed. Jenny Walke will be presenting at the conference in February. She is doing testing right now on the bee's gut microbiome. With the new construction of the PUB at EWU they will now have a roof top garden and Jenny is going to see if the hives can be moved to this area.

EWU Sustainability Report: Nothing new to report

Airway Heights CC Airway Heights CC (Joe Miller) -- \$5/person to WASBA annually; \$5/person to WPBA annually; report twice a year; club officers; goal of 4 articles/year. The inmates wanted to pay for dues so the above amounts were agreed upon.

They have been busy. 8 out of 11 queens that they raised are still alive and flourishing. Their focus was on taking care of the bee hives and queen rearing. Now they are back to training. \$300.00 of training aides have been ordered. They are setting up bylaws for their Airway Heights CC club, but they still want to be part of WPBA. They had 11 graduates last week for the beginning beekeeping class. Their goal is to keep 50% of the students in the club. Currently they have 17 active working members in the AHCC bee club. They expect to have journeyman level beekeepers. Right now, Joe Miller is going out to Airway Heights to work with the inmates for 2 hours twice a month.

Next year - tentatively Jan-Feb the inmates would like to brief several local and state club members directly on their program and progress. Potentially would need 6-8 volunteers.

There is still work being done to get permission through the DOC to acknowledge the inmates who worked on the draft of the Journeyman beekeeping manual.

Future issues: how to get newsletters to inmates - they have no computer access. Also how to allow voting privileges for inmates in the club.

Website Report: Nothing new to report

Annual meeting/conference: Washington State Beekeepers Association (Kevin Oldenburg)
The conference is 2/9/2019. If you are a member of WASBA the cost of the conference is less - so it is beneficial to become a member of WASBA. There will be an evening event after the conference - mead tasting after the conference at the Mason Jar in Cheney

Old Business

Election of Officers: Co-Vice President- Ellen Miller presented the following recommendation. Go back to what the bylaws say and have an education committee. Club members at the meeting in agreement.

New Business:

Donation of class to WASBA conference raffle- motion made by Joe M, second Kevin O. This will be a generic class - could be used for either beginning or journeyman level class.

Bill Watts attending our meeting - he owns Sweet and Simple Apiaries. He sells packages expects delivery about April 13, 2019. Can order in April for a package. He also has an extractor as well and runs in August, September, October. We will add his name and info to the WPBA website if members would like more info.

There was a suggestion that the club might want to offer a beginning beekeeping class in February so that new beekeepers would have time to order bees for that year, rather than having to wait a year to buy package bees.

Lincoln Miller received his Journeyman Beekeeping certificate and his family was in attendance to see him get his certificate.

Adjourn: 8:02 pm motion Kevin, second Joe M

Submitted

Marie Ellis, Secretary