

West Plains Beekeepers Association

Pizza Factory, Medical Lake

Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2019

6:00 Social time; talking to others about bees

6:30 Educational Program: Bees' Eyes: What Do They See? By Margo Buckles and Mary Brodahl

Meeting called to order at 7:21 pm by Ellen Miller President

Minutes were approved from March meeting. Motion to approve Sheila, second Sherry

Treasurer's report: Kevin Ryan: Total in club account \$6173.87 Budget/amount in account between March of last year and March of this year almost the same.

Upcoming expenses: Insurance premium, storage unit rental, class expenses

Committee Reports

Education Committee (Margo Buckles)

- Beginning Beekeeping class: second class – 14 people Successful - offered a second class due to demand. Evaluations from the classes provided some constructive comments about the course - these will be given to Ellen. Noted that people found out about the classes via internet, word of mouth, website/conference/ads/zoning code, posters.
- Apprentice class – when?- Club felt a summer class offered in the evenings would work best for most people who have an interest in the course.
- Monthly meetings:
 - 5/17 – EWU's Bee Nutrition & the Bee's Microbiome – Results from 2018
 - 6/21 – Open Forum: Questions About Your Bees – Bring it in!
 - July - Bill Watts - mite control - maybe at the club apiary.
 - August- Picnic at Margo and Kevin's place

Community events:

Signup sheets provided at the meeting for Mayfest and Founders Day events

May 23rd event at Liberty Lake second grade - 4 hours

June 19th Farm Day day camp for FAFB students. Event lasts about 4 hours and will need 3-4 people.

Preschool in Cheney - Sherry volunteered for this

The educational committee met prior to the main meeting. They brought forward the issue that the club is becoming overwhelmed with the number of volunteer requests we are receiving. The question was raised how many should we actually do. The club as a whole decided to let the educational committee decide. In addition we tend to have a hard time finding volunteers to cover all of the events.

If you are interested in volunteering for an event please let Vicky M know.

A club member asked if there is support for 4-H clubs that want to start beekeeping. Advised that there is information on the internet on how to start this project. And if a specific 4-H club would like assistance they could approach WPBA to see about teaching a class.

Airway Heights CC has started a new class. They have more journeyman folks in the pipeline than any of the other corrections facilities participating in this type of program.

Airway Heights Corrections (Joe Miller) - No report. The sign that was made for WPBA by the inmates was on display during the meeting.

Washington State Beekeepers Association (Kevin Oldenburg)

The next board meeting is June 18th and all of the club presidents in the state of WA have been invited to attend.

Liability bill should be passed soon

Members can access University of Montana for masters course

There is work going on regarding reciprocity for people who have taken courses from places other than WASBA.

Upcoming field day at WSU on queen rearing, dates will be on WASBA website

There will be a Bees of Summer conference in the TriCities again this year

October 10, 2020 - state conference in the TriCities

There has been a big increase in state membership - has quadrupled in the past year.

Old Business:

- Report on WPBA Apiary: Located at Brookes and San Salvador Rd. Has three hives - 2 hives have package bees installed. 4 people have volunteered to work in the apiary. Suggestion made that it would be helpful to have a schedule of who will be tending the hives/when. Bill W - offered to hold a class for splits and nucs at the apiary

Request made by Margo for a top bar and warre hive to add to the club apiary

- Raising charge for classes: Discussion by club members regarding class fees. Decision made to increase class fees to the following:
\$50.00 for Beginning Beekeeping Course
\$60.00 for Apprentice Beekeeping Course
\$75.00 for Journeyman Beekeeping Course
Motion by Vicky
Second by Curtis
club voted in favor of class fee increases
Effective date will be with the next class that is offered
- Establishment of a Bee/Bee Equipment Bank: Discussion by club members regarding the bee/bee equipment bank. Points identified - a way to encourage volunteers, provide new beekeepers with appropriate support and equipment. Bill W made a suggestion that instead of the bee / bee equipment bank we might offer periodic door prizes/drawings to members who volunteer at events. As a result of the discussion a motion was made by Jack to disband the bee bank/bee equipment bank. Second by Curtis. Club voted in favor of disbanding the bee/bee equipment bank.

New Business:

Appoint a Nominating Committee: Vicky and Marilyn volunteered to be on the nominating committee. Will come back with some contacts next month.

Good of the Order: Bumble Bee Watch Spokane class

PNW BUMBLE BEE ATLAS PROJECT TRAINING

Become a Citizen Scientist and learn how to survey bumble bees!
Saturday, May 18th 2019, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM PST
Spokane County Extension Office

Adjourn: 8:13pm

Submitted

Marie Ellis, Secretary