

West Plains Beekeepers Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2014 Pizza Factory, Medical Lake, WA

6:30 pm Education – Ari Alvarez shared a report on the WAS Conference he attended in Missoula, Montana. Also, members brought honey desserts for taste testing.

7:10 pm President Kevin Oldenburg calls official meeting to order.
Attendees: 25 members plus all four officers

Secretary minutes for September approved.

Old Business

- No updates from WASBA on insurance
 - Insurance will cover everything (including demonstration hives, selling honey, officers, etc) except for alcohol.
- Kevin will be ordering association apparel (t-shirts, hats, fleeces)
- Association hives produced 24 quarts and 24 pints of honey this season. Quarts will be sold for \$13 and pints for \$7 to members. A jar was given to the Pizza Factory owner in exchange for allowing us to bring honey desserts.
- Margo confirmed that WPBA is officially registered as a 501C3 organization and is up to date with IRS reports.

New Business

- Jim Miller and Don Richter will present a motion at the next meeting regarding the final decision of what to do with the association hives next year. The following are options for consideration, none of which are definite. Tabled to next meeting.
Discussion:
 - The hives will be spread out within members that are willing to help but continue as WPBA property
 - Some hives will be kept for the club (education) and the rest will be sold to members
 - All hives will be for sale to members on August 15
 - Give the hives to kids interested in keeping bees – give them an assignment (ex- they must bring back a jar of honey to the club) to ensure they take care of their hive.

Committee Reports

- **Education Committee, Margo:**
 - Volunteers for teaching upcoming Fall Beekeeping Courses
 - **Nov 1)** Kevin Oldenburg – Bee Biology; Marie Ellis – Why Keep Bees
 - **Nov 8)** Marilyn Geiger – Bees and Flowers; Cara Hagar – After the Bees Arrive
 - **Nov 15)** Glenn Zimmerman– Fall and Winter Management
 - Nov 22) WASBA Apprentice test – Margo suggested Ari Alvarez as backup for Jim Miller to sign the test forms. Ari will check with WASBA to make sure he is cleared to sign the forms.
 - Motion made by Don Richter and second by Ari Alvarez to spend up to \$150 for advertising – approved.

- Upcoming topics for Education:
 - November- Mead Making
 - December- Honey Judging
 - January- Ari Alvarez
 - February – Jim Miller
 - March- Peggy Clemons – Building Nucs
 - April, May, and June are open
- Margo will need a replacement for her as Vice President next year
- **Research Committee**, Kevin Oldenburg:
 - Currently, 21 hives are alive and 3 are empty. One group of hives is located in Cheney, and the rest are in Medical Lake.
 - We will send bee samples from each hive to WSU for analysis of parasites, then another sample in the spring of bees that survive the winter.
 - We have not decided on a set date to end hive research, but if data is continually inconclusive we will probably terminate the experiment since there are no apparent results.
 - Need volunteers to make solid bee food, then to feed the hives Friday, October 10
 - Hives are purchased then donated to the club. Once donated, the club has full ownership of the hives and the honey produced by the hives. The club simply needs to write a letter giving thanks for the donation to declare the hives as WPBA property.
- **Treasurer report**, Glen Zimmerman:
 - One deposit of \$71.58
 - Balance in association account \$3,134.05
- **Membership Committee**, Marilyn Geiger: 1 new member

7:55 pm Meeting adjourned

Maria Alvarez, WPBA Secretary