

West Plains Beekeepers Association
January 15, 2016
Pizza Factory, Medical Lake, WA.

6-6:30 PM Journeyman class instructed by Jim Miller- "Pollination".

6:30-7:12 PM Education by Ellen Miller and Marilyn Geiger – "Honeybees and Flowers".

7:07 The Meeting was called to order by V.P. Don.

24 members were in attendance, with 3 officers.

Secretary's minutes were approved as written online.

Treasurer's report was read. 19 families have paid dues.

Committee Reports:

Research Committee. No report

Membership Committee. No report

Education Committee

A 2nd year beekeeping class starts on Jan 24th, from 1-4PM at the Pizza Factory in Medical Lake. Margo Buckles will be teaching that. Free to members, others \$10.

Starting Wednesday evenings in February-March, at the Pizza Factory will be this years beginning beekeeping classes. All times will be listed on the website.

Ellen mentioned that the February, March, and April before meeting education programs are all booked and looking good.

- On February 6th, there will be a book signing at Auntie's Book store in Spokane, of "Save the Bees with Natural Backyard Hives" by Chelsea and Rob McFarland.

Old Business

A motion was made to move all meetings from the 1st Friday, to the 3rd Friday of each month, and move the meeting place from City Hall to The Pizza Factory, in Medical Lake. All times to remain the same. This motion was Passed.

Jack reported that the IT committee is still working on the website update. Next meeting he should be able to show us a sneak peek of the updates on the website.

New Business

The association needs a new advertising/PR committee chairman to make sure ads for our classes, etc make it into the free papers and get more exposure. Kelly Yates volunteered, and Margo and Sherry will join her on the committee.

Jim Miller received a request from the Department of Corrections in Walla Walla, WA:

a. They need a club to receive test results and certificates.

b. They would like help starting a beekeeping club.

c. They would like volunteers to work with inmates, teaching beekeeping.

A motion was made to form a committee to establish contact with this group, to ask more questions and get more information.

Motion was passed.

Committee appointments: Ellen, Jim, Kevin.

Eastern Washington University contacted Jim Miller and asked for help setting up a bee club there.

a. They have a garden.

b. Dr. Justin Bastow, a professor at EWU would like to be involved.

c. They have 2 hives.

d. They need training.

e. The need financial help.

A motion was made to send the same committee as above to establish contact with the group, and ascertain what financial and other help is needed.

Motion was passed.

A motion was made to supply EWU with 2 hives and 2 packages of bees; then a friendly amendment was made to the motion to cap the budget/gift to \$700 and that we can use the same hives for demonstrations, classes, and that the EWU students will take our beginning beekeeping class.

Motion was passed.

The committee was asked to bring a proposal back to the association for approval.

Margo brought up that the Medical Lake High School students (FAA students taking our beginning beekeeping class) should be entitled to any reduced class fees that we may offer the EWU students.

a. Don asked if we could establish a "fund" to offer scholarships to pay for our class.

A motion was made for WPBA to offer reduced charges for students at "approved (by us) institutions.

a. Reduced charges can be discussed as needed.

Motion was passed.

Dues to the WSBA are due in January, at the rate of \$1 per family membership, based on the past years membership.

A reminder that all apiaries must be registered with the Washington state department of Agriculture. Those monies go to the Washington State Department of Agriculture for use in honeybee research. A recommendation to spend it goes to the department head from the Apiary Advisory Committee who is appointed by the head of the Department of Agriculture. Registered and marked hives are better protected by laws against farm and public land pesticide kill off, etc.

Jim Miller is taking order for packaged bees.

Please patronize both local businesses owned by association members: Miller's Homestead, and Beemaniacs.

Free calendars are available from the Fanara's, from Gold Seal Plumbing.

Pass the word about all of our new classes.

For the good of the order

Jim Miller handed out apprentice and journeyman certificates.
Ari Alvarez presented certificates for the "Train the Trainer" workshop.

8:07PM The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Sandy Fanara, Secretary