

West Plains Beekeepers Association
Minutes of the May 19th, 2017 Meeting

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

The March minutes were ratified as submitted.

Treasurer Joe Miller reported that the banking was completely closed out from the old bank, and that there was little activity projected of the course of the following month. Treasury balance report was read.

Committee Reports:

Marilyn Geiger started with the Education committee. Reported that it had been a busy month. Earth Day (EWU & Spokane) – Kevin reported that project Hope kids were praising the support from our association. Spokane Herbal Faire- Marilyn reported that it went well, Cheney MayFest- Ellen reported that it seems that we are getting a nice reputation through contacts there, also picked up an Airway Heights supporter at the event. Kevin reported on the hands on class at EWU- went fine and plan on doing another in late summer.

Upcoming educational programs include in June, a presentation by Kevin and Margo of Beekeeping in Panama, July still needs to be filled, and then in August Dr. Brandon Hopkins from WSU will be here.

Airway Heights CC- Jim Miller has submitted a new list of resource books to be used by the inmate-beekeepers. Monies were previously approved for that spending.

EWU Sustainability-Kevin Oldenburg reported that two hives were split. Now have 3 hives doing well. Others are welcome to help on Sunday at 10AM behind big red barn. Emily Sherman's senior project proceeding with calls from her to members. She may be switching to a Google mapping program. Planning on making a printed map with addresses, # of hives present, age, and species.

Kevin also reported that a Project Hope student was stung, and was hospitalized. That person needed to quit project.

There will be new classes in November and the following Spring.

Community Events include Lind 5th grade event on May 23, Joe and Marilyn will be attending an event in Lind, WA and ML Founder's Day on June 17thcould use some more volunteers for that event.

Publicity report by Margo Buckles- WASBA newsletter published articles from us in the past month.

Research Committee – no report.

Nominating committee (Kevin, Sandy, Steve) presented the following nominations for next month's elections:

President- Ellen Miller

VP- Marilyn Geiger and Margo Buckles

Treasurer- Kevin Ryan

Secretary- Jan Lawrence

With the following recommendations: That the education committee should have a chair appointed who is not necessarily the VP (though, as per the bylaws, the VP shall be on the committee). And that the education committee workload be divided between more people. Cathy Baldwin and Brian Raska both volunteer to serve on the education committee. The education committee includes Events (planning and volunteer schedules), School presentations, WPBA classes, Prisons.

Website Report-no report

WASBA- Ellen Miller and Marilyn Geiger presented students from the March class with Apprentice Certificates.

Also, WASBA is working on rehashing the education program. Jim, Ellen are both on the state education committee and Ellen is responsible for formatting information/answers from a questionnaire to begin the process of revision.

New Business

Annual Meeting/conference discussion was held. A new committee was developed to investigate possibilities: Joe Miller, Jennifer Priest, Vickie McMillian, Gale Snyder, and Mike Lavoie.

Scott Holbrook began a conversation with the membership to approach Medical Lake City Council and request the passage of ordinances prohibiting the use of pesticides, herbicides, insecticides, etc. Also, that as a club we could do more to promote the planting of bee foraging flowering plants. Further discussion suggested the making of a food crop pollination brochure, as well as education materials for home owners/gardeners and what can be done to help honey bees and pollinators.

Jack Miller reported that a few things need to change in regards to event equipment and storage. First, a lot of equipment and educational materials are being hauled from and stored in member's homes. That some of the equipment (tables and easy-ups) are not owned by the club.

A motion was made to immediately rent a storage unit in Medical Lake for under \$50 a month to store the equipment and materials.

Vote was passed.

Jack, and Marilyn will look into the purchasing \$\$ of items that are now be borrowed from members for events, so that in the future we can purchase for club use.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Fanara

Substituting Secretary