

West Plains Beekeepers Association

May 18, 2018

Old Grange Hall in Four Lakes

6:00 Social time - Celebrating World Bee Day / Potluck

Decorations by Vicky McMillian

Meeting called to order at 1900 By VP Margo

Minutes were approved from April meeting motion to approve Kevin O, second Megan

Treasurer's report: Kevin Ryan. Payment from bee club, renewal of rental space. Still some expenses expected to come in. \$1000.00 committed for the conference next year.

Committee Reports:

Education Committee Margo/Marilyn

- ❖ Volunteers are still needed for some of the community events WPBA will be attending this spring/summer.
- ❖ 6/1 West Central Community at Cannon Park 2:30-7pm still need volunteers
- ❖ 6/2 Mobius 9:30-2pm Jack and Ellen
- ❖ 6/9 Herbal Fair at Unity Spiritual Center on Bernard Set up at 9 am will run from 10am to 4pm.
- ❖ 6/16 Medical Lake Founders Day 10am-4pm
- ❖ August Airway Heights Festival and Car Show 10am-4pm

Publicity:

- ❖ Margo nothing new to report

Research Report:

- ❖ Kevin O reported on the study hives. They weigh about 16-21 kilos, have taken only about 10 gallons of feed total for all of the 16 hives. Not sure what this means yet.
- ❖ Marilyn brought in the Inlander newspaper and called to our attention the article about Jeni Walke and the study hive experiment.
- ❖ Kevin O wants to investigate why do our bees all die in the winter, we need to figure out why hobbyist bee keepers have such high hive losses. Commercial beekeepers are having good luck with over wintering bees in potato processing sheds.

EWU Sustainability Report: Nothing new to report

Airway Heights CC and Walla Walla: Nothing new to report

Website Report: Nothing new to report

Annual meeting/conference:

- ❖ Margo, Marie, and Kevin attended the Backyard Beekeepers meeting on 5/17, they were interested in the idea of a conference, one person from Backyard Beekeepers volunteered to be an ambassador between West Plains and Backyard Beekeepers.
- ❖ IEBA - Ellen Miller made contact with Jerry Tate and the president of IEBA they are positive. Only phone conversations so far, have not met face to face.
- ❖ Four speakers have agreed to speak at the conference
- ❖ Joe Miller passed out vendor information flyers at Cheney Mayfest
- ❖ \$2000.00 grant proposal has been submitted to Washington State Beekeeping Association

Old Business:

- ❖ Kevin O is the new president for WSBA. There will be a meeting in Ellensburg on June 8, 2018. If you are interesting in being an officer contact Kevin.
- ❖ Kevin offered some general information about WSBA. They have a big grant fund for students who are in college. They have their own lobbyist for WA state legislature. They assisted with the bill before the WA state legislature regarding liability. Commercial beekeepers don't like hobbyist beekeepers, WSPB may work to bridge this gap between commercial and hobbyist.
- ❖ A bee keeping group in New Mexico contacted WSBA and would like to purchase the Beginning Beekeeping course.
- ❖ Margo brought forward that we need to put together a committee to nominate officers. Since there were no volunteers at this meeting Margo was willing to be on the committee. Kevin is willing to be treasurer for another year and Marie Ellis is willing to continue being secretary. Margo explained the VP of education duties and proposed sharing between two people.

New Business: No new business

Adjourn: 1926

Submitted

Marie Ellis, Secretary