

Tri-County Beekeepers Meeting Tuesday, September 4, 2018

Board members Stephanie Johnson, Bob Cross, Mitch Theis and Juliet Brambrink were present.

Stephanie called the meeting to order at 7:05. Total attendance was approximately 50. Three new members were present.

- Old business
 - Website committee: Stephanie and Cooper Erickson, along with Juliet Brambrink, volunteered to help create an updated website
 - Club equipment storage: The club's equipment needs to be relocated. Options include purchasing a used trailer or renting a storage unit. Budget would need to be allocated.
 - Items to be stored include fair materials, pamphlets, class materials and picnic materials.
 - If a trailer is chosen, it would need a place to park.
 - Mice are a consideration.
 - All members should keep an eye open for an enclosed 10- to 12-foot trailer.
 - Marty Stone will head up the process of looking for and inspecting a trailer. Rick Redding (potential member) may also be able to use a connection to look for a trailer.
 - A motion was made and amended to authorize up to \$2,500 for a trailer. Treasurer Mitch Theis will write a check if a suitable trailer is found.
 - Fair report
- What's going on in the hive: Discussion about using MiteAway Quick Strips (2 strips/hive for seven days), treating for mites (do this now!), deformed wing virus and other seasonal topics. New breeds: Anklebiters, Saskatraz are bred for mite resistance and overwintering, no conclusive proof yet. 9-10 frames of honey (90-110 pounds) of honey are needed for bees to overwinter. If you plan to move honey, do it ASAP.
- Honey harvest: members talked about their honey harvest for the year. Results, as usual, were mixed.
- Club Flow-Hive: it was very slick. Harvest was about three gallons from that hive.
- Discussion regarding the use of chemicals: having easements manually maintained, beekeepers in France suing for the use of Round-Up, neonics being used again by the Department of Interior (National Parks, etc.).
- Treasurer's Report:
 - Fair: \$1893.50 honey sold, +\$57.04 wax, \$1437.31 straws, for a total of \$3498.06
 - \$1178.75 was the total profit from the fair, plus 317.82 in profits from after-fair sales.

- Other transactions: \$150 for the cash box, \$3594 deposit, minus payments to members, 32.26 for bottles, 222.92 for remaining straws, 61 extra honey, 80 new member fees, 440 class profit. (\$638 is the cost of the demo hive, this is intended to be self-sustaining.)
- \$10,306.01 current balance. Scholarships fund allocation 512.96.
- Treasurer's report was approved.

New Business

- Demo hive: the hive is always available for members to inspect, just email president@ or contact via Facebook. A honey extraction demo may be held during the picnic.
- A representative from the U of M will likely be available at the next meeting for presentation and questions. If you have questions you would like answered as meeting topics, email president ASAP so they can be passed along.
- Picnic: September 22, 3:30 pm at the demo yard/Clay Walker's. Watch your email.
- Label your honey properly: "Pure honey", name, address, phone, weight. Do not label things organic unless you are properly certified.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40.