

011217 MHB Club meeting

Thursday, January 12, 2017

McDowell Honeybees Monthly Meeting

January 12, 2017

Called to order by Ed Speer at 6:33pm

Treasurer report

\$3895.95

Currently collecting membership dues

\$7 individual/ \$10 for Household/ \$15 for state

If you don't pay your state dues to Jim by end of February, then pay dues directly to state

No questions from club re: treasurer report

Bee School

- Bee School - Feb 4, 11 and 18 - starts at 8:30
- Farm Bureau has stated they have requested donation for bee school in their current budget
- Workshops are the 11th - lunch provided for volunteers - dietary needs
- Donations for door prizes and silent auction
- Textbooks are in and will be ready to sell to students
- Donations from suppliers are starting to come in - hive tools, books. Gift certificates, catalogs
- Flyers - pick one up
- Facebook sharing
- Volunteer signup
- Club members don't register unless they want a seat in the room

Committees

GAP - Golden Achievement Program

Individual award recognition sheets - need by February 9 (next meeting)

Rock Hill March 3 & 4

Apiary - Need Chair

See Ed if you are interested in helping to manage the apiary or if you are interested in "owning" one of the hives for the season

Honey House - Adam

Currently closed for the season. Once it warms up, the water will be turned back on and the honey house can be used

Hospitality - Lynn

Please see Lynn if you are interested in helping out with the hospitality committee and if you are willing to bring refreshments. Vonda will be co-chairing hospitality for bee school

Website - Karen - Bruce is no longer able to maintain the website. Changes are in process and we encourage club members to submit content for the website.

Executive Committee - had meeting on Tuesday

- Bylaws - still working on re-writing the bylaws
- We do not need approval from the NC Beekeepers to change bylaws
- We can set plan for dissolution and disbursement of funds at time of dissolution, if that's how we write bylaws

- Assets do not need to be submitted to state organization

Honeybee Wellness

- Program has been in for 1 year to encourage club members to purchase bees with optimal genetics
- Any club member can apply for up to \$20 reimbursement for queens, nucs or packages as long as they come from an approved supplier. If you have a question as to whether your purchase is reimbursable, contact a board member.
- Program has been renewed with another \$500 for 2017, Karen will list pre-approved suppliers on the website

Insurance

- Club liability insurance has been purchased as voted on at November meeting

Calendar

- Looking for presentations for the upcoming year. Program calendar development is in process. If you are interested or have an idea, contact Ed
- Two honey tastings scheduled for normally scheduled club meetings - June and September
 - All 6 winners will be sent to Texas A&M for pollen analysis

Honey Analysis

- 22 samples have been sent in from the club for analysis (both as tasting winners as well as individually submitted samples). That detailed spreadsheet is on our website (www.mcdowellhoneybees.org) and is linked from the front page.
- Three honeys were purchased from stores in McDowell County but did not come from beekeepers within McDowell County.
 - Not 1 single grain of sourwood pollen in any of the samples.
 - McDowell County Sourwood honey samples have 1000-10,000 grains of sourwood.
 - Only way to remove all of the pollen, honey must be heated to over 160* F
- Kim Allen - Owner, Asheville Bee Charmer - introduced by Ray Revis
 - If you go public, go to retailer first
 - Give them a chance and educate them
 - "Bee Charmer" tests almost all of their honey
 - They have rejected honey which hasn't met their standards
- Stephanie Wild has suggested that we have a bulleted fact sheet available for club members
 - Karen will put something on the website
- Jill Read has volunteered to go to Ingles Corporate purchasing to give presentation regarding findings
- Ed has written a letter to go to local news agencies
 - Point of letter is not to be vindictive, but to educate why honey should be purchased from a McDowell beekeeper
 - How to find a beekeeper in McDowell County, go to the McDowell County Honey Trail website
 - He has the letter available if club members would like to read it and he would love to speak with club members personally.

Business portion of the meeting closed at 7:33

Jim makes motion we adjourn , Charles McKenzie seconds

Minutes submitted by Karen Speer, Secretary