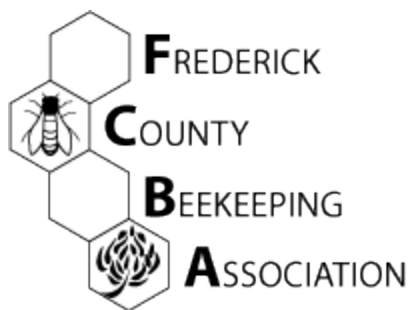


Educate and
Advocate for
Responsible
Beekeeping



Meeting Minutes

August 5th, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Glen Mayers, Immediate Past President. He also welcomed several guests including Bernie Hobbs, Watu, Keith and Beatrice, and John Dickman.

There were 42 members in attendance constituting a quorum for the purposes of voting. Our club membership is currently 152 members.

Special Bee Event and Presentation: Bill McGiffin on Drone Congregation Areas (DCA) and the Drone Rodeo

Bill McGiffin shared information about drone congregation areas where males wait in clusters for young virgin queens to fly by.

Bill coordinated a drone rodeo, where members' drones were gathered in a Tupperware tub and participants had 15 seconds to gather as many drones as they could one at a time using their fingers. Fun times and participants were thankful that club members can knowledgeably pick out drones!

Secretary's Report:

The minutes were sent out via BeesBiz prior to the meeting. No amendments were made. 1st motion: Dave Maloney; 2nd Charles Schwalbe. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

The report was sent out via BeesBiz prior to the meeting. Jens reminded members who rent the extractor to submit the rental fees, ASAP. 1st motion: Mike Turell; 2nd motion: Dave Maloney. The report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Public Outreach/Education: Nothing to Report

Scientific: Next month, we welcome Lisa Kuder of the UMD Department of Entomology speaking about solitary bees. Chuck noted that anyone who is interested in presenting on a topic, please contact him.

Bylaws: No report

Newsletter: Next newsletter due out in September. Continue to send Deb your submissions. dturnell08@comcast.net

MSBA Report: No Report

Club Hives Report: Dave Maloney reported that the hive is doing well with 2 deeps and 2 supers. The observation hive needed some desperate help. Tim Hasenai and Dave Maloney tore it apart to remedy the issue of no space at the bottom. John Klapac donated a queen and Dave and Tim situated one row of frames with foundation/comb with additional frames with only a starter strip of foundation.

New/Old Business:

Great Frederick Fair: Sign ups are complete- thank you to all that filled spaces. There is still a need for hive wranglers to set-up the hive on Thursday, the 17th of September. Dave Maloney, Tim H. and Allen W. volunteered. 6000 honey sticks have been purchased. Ed Mordan reminded folks that educational displays are needed. He also asked the membership to consider selling lip balm. Glen reminded members to consider selling their honey as well. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting.

To enter items in the Farm and Garden Building...review the catalog! Here is the link:
<http://www.thegreatfrederickfair.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/Farm-Garden-Bldg.-97-111.pdf>

Online Registration has opened: <http://www.thegreatfrederickfair.com/exhibitor-information/online-entriesregistration/>

Key Points from July's meeting about Fair judging:

- Why do you enter? Prestige/bragging rights/ribbons= more \$ for your products
- Be sure to read ALL of the rules for entries. First timers are often given exemptions.
- Criteria for judging can include:
 - Container: Be sure the lid is new and the jar is clean.
 - Crystals: They use a polarized light to see crystals.
 - Heat is the only cure for crystals (heat bath/ sun)
 - Filling: Jar should be filled to the first bead of the top.
 - Cleanliness: No foam, debris, lint
 - Use 100-mesh strainer, let it set for 24-48 hours after extracting and before filling the jars. Fill your fair jars after a few initial jars. Fill at an angle and let the honey slide down the side of the jar.
 - Do NOT filter with cheesecloth!
 - Flavor
 - Density: Must be below 18.6%
 - Harvest on a dry day
 - Should be 80% capped
 - Use a dehumidifier set at 50% humidity or less
 - Beeswax: Pour when wax is around 165 degrees.
 - To level out ripples and prevent cracks: Heat oven to 125 degrees, turn off and let mold in the oven until cool.
 - Candles: Be sure to wax the wick, paper towel removes the "bloom"

Email Policy: John Klapac prompted a discussion about the club email policy. Members shared their opinions about the policy including the idea of a forum; keeping it simple; policy needing to be revamped; no use by vendors at all. Glen reviewed the current expectations of the BeesBiz vs. Bees general group email.

Beesbiz: beesbiz@emaldodo.com is for only official club business and announcements, most of which will come from committee chairs and executive board members.

FCBA Group: bees@emaldodo.com is the general group email for sharing, questions and other bee-related communication.

Dave Maloney will repost the email etiquette and the email policy after the Board meets to review it.

BEE TALK:

- **Treatments:** Allen suggested members to reference the company websites for specific treatments- often there is more detailed information regarding treatment conditions and procedure. Treatments being used in the club included Hopguard 2; Apigard; Mite Away Quick Strips (MAQS), oxalic acid liquid and vaporized
- **Feeding:** Begin 1:1 syrup feeding. Ideally each hive will have brood boxes with an outer frame of honey and a top box with ten frames of honey going into winter.

The meeting ended with door prizes and was officially adjourned at 9:04 PM.

The next meeting will be September 2nd at 7:30 pm at the USDA Professional Development Center at 69 Thomas Johnson Drive.