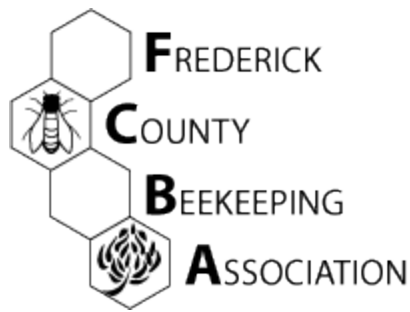


Educate and
Advocate for
Responsible
Beekeeping



Meeting Minutes

July 1st, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Bill McGiffin to introduce the guest speaker, David Morris.

There were 32 members in attendance constituting a quorum for the purposes of voting. Our club membership is currently 152 members.

Bee Presentation: Master Beekeeper, David Morris on Fair Entries

Key Points:

- 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”

Secretary’s Report:

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

Treasurer's Report

The report was sent out prior to the meeting. 1st motion: Dave Maloney; 2nd motion: Mike Turell. The report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Public Outreach/Education: Rose shared on Liz's behalf a few opportunities for outreach including: (1) Girl Scout troop in the Fall, (2) Thurmont Fitness Event on July 11th, (3) Frederick County Public Libraries on Thursday, October 1st. **ACTION: Which library branch?** Dave Maloney updated the group on the FCC grant opportunity. The club has supported their efforts by giving a list of recommended equipment. This grant will support 12-15 students in managing an apiary on FCC property. There may be a need for mentors- this may be too cumbersome for this club or any one individual on a volunteer basis.

Scientific: Many thanks for a wonderful presenter this evening. Coming in August is the Drone Rodeo presentation.

Bylaws: No report

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

MSBA Report: Bill McGiffin shared the State meeting was a great success, well attended and informative.

New Business:

Great Frederick Fair: Liz Thompson started to collect names of volunteers to man the bee booth at the Fair. Newbees are encouraged to help with this in order to gain experience with talking about bees to the public. Nelly shared that day shifts with children are busy, but the children are only with you briefly. The evening crowds afford more opportunity to talk to interested adults and families. Liz will be sending a Sign Up Genius email in the near future as the sign up must be complete by August. Clarification will be provided for fair ticket and parking.

The meeting ended with door prizes and snacks (Thanks Rose) and was officially adjourned at 9:02 PM.

The next meeting will be August 5th at 7:30 pm at the USDA Professional Development Center at 69 Thomas Johnson Drive.