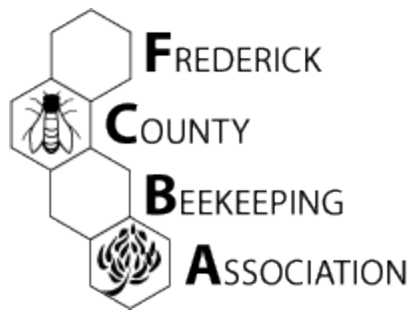


Educate and
Advocate for
Responsible
Beekeeping



Meeting Minutes

July 2nd, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Glen Mayers, President at Fountain Rock Nature Center in Walkersville, MD.

There were 37 members in attendance constituting a quorum for the purposes of voting. Our club membership is currently about 100 members. According to the bylaws Article VI Section 3: "15% of the membership in good standing, present and in person shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business."

We welcomed new members and guests: Sarah Wolfe, Jack Shackelford and junior member Matea Anderson.

Regular Club Meeting

Meeting Minutes

Laura shared that there was a correction submitted for the June minutes. Amended minutes will be sent out and updated on the website. Amended minutes from the June meeting were unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report

The beginning balance was \$4721.05. There was income of \$15 for dues and extractor rental fees. There were expenses of \$180 for honey sticks and \$82.53 for the purchase of 2 jigs. The ending balance is \$4473.52. The report was unanimously approved.

There was discussion about increasing the order for honey sticks as the club typically sells out at the Fair. Contact will be made with Bill McGiffin to possibly increase the order (see Fair notes below for vote).

Fence Hive: Kristien shared that the fence hives are ready to be moved back and this will take place the July 4th weekend. Liz volunteered to assist with the move. The package requeened and is in a full deep. The original hive with queen is in 1 ½ deeps.

Observation Hive: Dave shared and members saw the hive doing quite well. There are still open cells and the staff continues to feed sugar water. John Klapac suggested feeding a pollen substitute like a BeePro patty in the frame. There was discussion about the best way to get the pollen substitute to the bees. Joe shared that he did not have luck with mixing the pollen substitute in the sugar water feed- bees won't eat it. Kristien suggested maybe putting some patty in the pipe without blocking it of course.

New Meeting Place: Last month, All Saints Church was not well attended. Not sure if it was miscommunication or change of date/location. Discussion about locations mentioned in email discussions ...

- John Klapac shared Lohr's is available. It is on E. Patrick Street by fairgrounds. The owner has offered a separate room that holds about 40 people. They close at 9 and while dinner orders are welcomed, not required.
- Red Horse Inn's owner is a member of the club. Offered a room that holds 40 plus. Members continued email discussions that 1 gallon of honey per month as payment was too much and brings up question of who provides it.
- Laura shared a contact made with the Mt. Pleasant Ruritan Club. They would charge \$20, the building is centrally located, air conditioned with tables and chairs. Available on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Seats 100 in an open space.

Final discussion led to Glen creating a Survey Monkey online survey to get members opinions about the meeting locations. He will email links to the survey (check junk folders and contact Glen if you do not receive a link by July 5th). There will be a link on the website as well.

Email Update: There still seems to be some members not receiving emails. Dave will be exploring other email servers for the club. The number of emails has significantly decreased. If what you have to contribute is educational for all...SEND IT!!!

New Business:

Alison Gillespie Hives in the City: Keeping Honey Bees Alive in an Urban World: Alice Nemitsas, staff member at Fountain Rock Nature Center welcomed everyone. She shared information about a guest speaker coming to Fountain Rock to speak about her book, Hives in the City: Keeping Honey Bees Alive in an Urban World. She encouraged members to attend. It will be held on Sunday, September 14th from 2-3 pm. Her book can be found on Amazon. ISBN-13: 978-0996025904

Frederick County Sheepbreeders: Peter Vorac announced that his club was joining the FCBA. The farmers in this club are still encouraging any member who would like to place hives on their farms to contact a member of the Sheepbreeders club. They are happy to host bees for the good of it! www.fredericksheepbreeders.com

Great Frederick Fair:

- **Booth Sign-up:** Liz shared that an email has been sent for Sign-Up Genius for Fair booth sign ups. Members need to cover the booth from 9-8 daily for the Fair. Booth workers are responsible for selling honey, sharing knowledge with curious guests, locating the queen in the observation hives and being an advocate of beekeeping. Sign up Genius has the specific shift times available. Liz

shared that she is in the process of creating a “Talking Points” page to help get new folks started. There will be 2 observation hives expected at the Fair. The goal is for the sign-ups to be complete by mid-August. Members who sign up for 1 or 2 shifts will be given a fair pass for each day that they are signed up to work. Members who sign up for 3 or more are given a full week’s pass.

- **Fair Entries:** Kristien gave the idea of having a “Paint your Hive Body” contest within the entries. This could be entered in the craft class possibly. Members agreed this would be a great way to encourage both veteran and new members who may not have honey to enter, to participate in entries.
- **Sale of Honey:** Last year honey sales were \$9 for a 1 pound jar with \$1 going to club. Members agreed to keep prices the same with bottles of choice. If you plan to sell honey, please let Glen know by August so that labels can be printed. Members also discussed selling a smaller bottle. Joe has great luck selling 6 oz. jars at work. The members thought that 1 pound and ½ pound jars would be the best 2 sizes and limits the number of choices. ½ pound jars should be sold for \$5 each with \$1 going back to club. Members suggested increasing budget line for honey sticks to \$270 to cover the purchase of 1,000 more honey sticks. This was approved by unanimous vote.
- **Fair Honey Entries:** Guidelines are available on Fair Website. www.thegreatfrederickfair.com 18.6 % moisture and under is the fair guidelines for moisture.
- **Wax Candle Demo:** Wax without wire and wicks need to be purchased for the Fair demo.

Walter Kelley Co. via John Klapac: John Klapac shared that he has become a dealer of Walter Kelley products. This addresses the need of immediate inventory needed by club members at times and reduced shipping costs. With the dealer relationship order, John can offer no shipping costs. He will place an order in mid-July to have by the 1st of August. Orders must be prepaid. He offered catalogs to members.

Financial Questions: Treasurer, Seth Wilson asked for some clarification and feedback on several items.

- He suggested that the club purchase and use a locking moneybox for the Fair. Members discussed and felt that this was an unnecessary expense considering the success of the current practice. Members noted that booth workers were very aware of and responsible for the collection and protection of the funds.
- He suggested creating a paper trail using receipts for the Fair honey sales. Receipts could be either pre-printed or handwritten in a triplicate form type book. Members felt

that the current practice is already effective and having to write receipts would be burdensome for no purpose.

- He suggested collecting sales tax as he has not located the official tax law that makes the club exempt from collecting tax. Members weren't sure where to locate the law, but felt it was not necessary to collect tax unless the IRS prompted them to do so.

Refractometer: Dave brought and shared a refractometer that he purchased. He shared that he used it to measure the moisture level of uncapped honey when his bees left frames uncapped. Other members have experienced similar behavior. Dave shared that they are available on Amazon for \$26-\$58 depending on the type. He passed it around for members to see. He suggested possibly purchasing one for the club to have available for member use/rental.

Quorum for Voting: Harry noted at the last meeting that a motion by Bill McGiffin was not voted on due to the lack of a "quorum." He reviewed the bylaws and they do NOT state that a quorum was needed to vote on this motion. Harry again motioned to support the motion described here from the June minutes:

"Mera" (Penn State University) is developing a new app where you will be able to diagnose many hive issues on the app. They are looking for funding. Many other clubs have agreed to donate and support the research. The app will cover 7 states throughout the Eastern US. Motion was made to donate \$250. Bill will resend info-please review so we can cast a vote in July.

The members unanimously voted to support this venture with a \$250 donation. It was further suggested that a statement be added to the minutes, indicating the number of members in attendance at the meeting and whether or not there was a quorum (15% according to bylaws).

Bee Discussion

Swarms: Proverb says, "Swarm in July not worth a fly." Members talked about the pros and cons of catching late swarms. Even though the swarm may not survive on its own, members noted the value of adding the bees to weak hives in apiaries.

Harry shared that in one of his hives from which he is trying to collect chunk honey, the comb actually melted.

Glen added that he has used a ventilated inner cover and has struggled with robber bees.

The meeting ended with door prizes (thanks everyone!) and was officially adjourned at 9 PM.

The next meeting will be August 6th, 2014, at 7:30 pm at Fountain Rock Nature Center in Walkersville. Keep an eye on email/website for updates and directions.