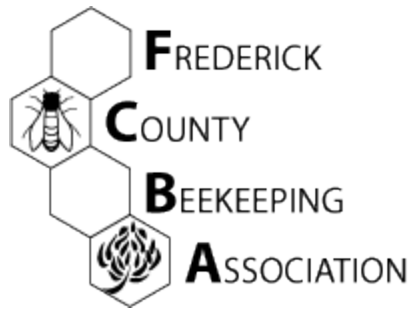


Educate and
Advocate for
Responsible
Beekeeping



Meeting Minutes

June 3rd, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Rose Aurigemma, President at the USDA building at 69 Thomas Johnson Drive.

There were 56 members in attendance constituting a quorum for the purposes of voting. Our club membership is currently 152 members.

Welcome to Tim Hasenei, a new member from Walkersville.

Josie Ritchie, a first grader at Woodsboro Elementary School, gave a brief presentation of her science fair project titled, "That's a Honey of a Different Color." She shared what she learned and displayed her honey spectrum housing 40 samples of honey.

Bee Presentation: Kristien Zaal on Varroa Mite Current Research

Kristien presented information based on current research about Varroa mites and their effects on honey bees and honey bee colonies.

Key Points:

- Current recommended treatment threshold is 3 mites per 100 bees. The best way to determine this number is by using a powdered sugar roll using a Mason jar with a sample of 100 bees and adding powdered sugar. To determine the relative size of 100 bees compared to various jars:
- The current treatment protocol from University of Maryland:

	Spring (before honey flow)	Summer (after supers are removed)	late Fall (broodless period)
Apiguard	X	X	
Apivar	X	X	
MAQS (Mite Away Quick Strips)	X	X	
Oxalic Acid			X

- Research has identified Varroa Sensitive Hygienic bees (VSH) that have traits and genes that make them more able to fight Varroa.
- What can you do? When buying a queen look for VSH traits to better the chances of survival. Be an informed beekeeper.

Secretary's Report:

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

Treasurer's Report

The report was sent out prior to the meeting. 1st motion: Dave Maloney; 2nd motion: Joe O'Connell. The report was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports:

Public Outreach/Education: Liz Baker shared a couple opportunities for outreach: (1) FCPL is looking for a few beekeepers to present possibly on a Thursday evening at 6:30 (October 1st or October 29th) & (2) Jan Hurst is interested in bringing school age kids to an apiary site close to Sharpsburg for a summer camp experience in late June. Any interested members please contact Liz at lizbaker99@hotmail.com Liz also shared a possible opportunity for outreach at the Damascus Fair which members felt Montgomery County Beekeepers covers well. She also shared a request from Tots and Tweens to buy advertising and membership believes there was no need to purchase advertising with Tots and Tweens.

Scientific: Chuck Schwalbe shared that the agenda for presentations has been posted on the Frederick Bees website. www.frederickbees.org Dave March will be presenting in July about Fair entries. Jens Andersen asked to be notified of any expenses incurred for the presenters or their dinners.

Bylaws: No report

Newsletter: Members applauded Deb Turnell's great work with the latest edition of the newsletter- it is quite an accomplished publication! The next one will go out in September, please submit any recipes, articles or items of interest as soon as you have them. dturnell08@comcast.net

MSBA Report: Bill McGiffin shared the State meeting will be coming up in a few weeks on the University of Maryland campus. Keep your eyes out for an email sharing the date, time and directions. Bill also shared that Cybil will be joined by a new inspector in 2016; she is currently carrying the load on her own.

New Business:

Hood College Bee Research: Two research assistants requested information from members by completing a survey relative to beekeeping. Each member was given the opportunity to complete and submit the survey. A link to the survey will be sent to members in a few weeks, if you were not in attendance at the meeting.

Extractor Use: Dave Maloney reminded members about the club extractors that are available. Please refer to and review the extractor policy prior to contacting him to serve the extractor. <http://frederickbees.org/extractor-use-policy/>

ESSL Frederick Support: Chuck Schwalbe has been in touch with Jeffrey Grills of the Earth Space and Science Lab (ESSL) in Frederick. The ESSL staff is interested in installing and maintaining an observation hive. They are seeking feedback and advice from willing beekeepers. The members agreed this is a great opportunity to outreach and educate.

Teaching Tub Seminar: Laura Ritchie recognized that requests for educational outreach opportunities are continuing to grow. She offered to lead a teaching seminar using the newly made teaching tub available to club members. She would give a quick overview of how the lessons might look to build member confidence and experience. Rose polled the membership and quite a few members are interested in doing outreach. The seminar will be held prior to a regular meeting most likely in July or August.

Fair Honey Jars: Rose Aurigemma wanted to determine the jar type, size and material for the Fair honey sales. Members may consign their honey during the Fair. Bill McGiffin motioned to raise the price of the honey to \$10/ lb. jar (\$9 for seller, \$1 for club) and keep ½ lb. jars at \$5 (\$4 for seller, \$1 for club) to be aligned with neighboring counties. Joe O'Connell seconded the motion and passed by a majority vote. Members also agreed that glass and plastic queenline style jars will be used in both 1 pound and ½ pound jars. Labels will be provided by the club. Members who wish to use 1 pound and ½ pound bear bottles will need to use the label template to label their own bears with tags or something similar.

The meeting ended with door prizes and snacks (Thanks Rose) and was officially adjourned at 9:07 PM.

The next meeting will be July 1st at 7:30 pm at the USDA Professional Development Center at 69 Thomas Johnson Drive.