

Mountain Empire Beekeepers Association

Minutes

June 22, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Anthony Ellis, MEBA President at Wytheville Community College, in Smyth Hall room 122. 20 members were present.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes by Mickey Cunningham, and was 2nd by Hank Sturkie.

Presenter: Ann Harmon, International Honey Show Judge

Presentation: Preparing for the International Honey Show- video

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HP6S_gZQMWc

Presenter: Virginia Webb, <https://mtnhoney.com/about-us/>

Presentation: Preparing Honey Show Entries, Strained Honey-World's Best Honey

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bg2H2weZeto>

Old Business:

- The trifold needs to be redone. Wytheville Word Print may have the original. We need members to submit pictures of people extracting, going into their hives or food service with honey. Pictures of flowers, shrubs or trees that bees like are needed as well.
- Fred Jones from Pilot, Virginia bought Tim Service's queen rearing business. He will have queens available. His phone number is (540) 745-2982.
- "Tator" David Miller of Abingdon, Virginia is still buying wood to make woodenware bee supplies. He can be reached at 25155 Walden Road Abingdon, VA 24210. His phone number is (276) 608-6225.

New Business:

- An observation hive given to MEBA from S & W was painted beautifully by Denise Sturkie. We thank her very much for the amazing work she did.
- A motion for consideration as "How to Conduct Basic Bee Class" for the next five (5) years

"Whereas part of the mission for Mountain Empire Beekeepers Associations (association) is to help new beekeepers to become established, therefore, I move that the tuition cost be set at \$47.00 per student and family discount be set at \$75.00 and family tuition provides maximum of two textbooks per family. Duration of this motion is not to exceed five (5) years from January 26, 2023. (Second required here)

Discussion: Purpose of this motion is to aid class recruitment on a multiyear basis. Also, this motion is not to limit the powers of the executive committee on a biennial basis to adjust tuition based upon the economy and the development of a new textbook.

Perception from recruiting this year is that more persons will be retiring to the area covered by the association and that when discussion on the class reaches price for tuition it should remain stable for at least two years. Secondly, this motion will allow our membership to talk to other persons with assurance of facts about our educational program." *This motion has been tabled for 2 months.*

- Cathy Hounshell has asked committees to be formed to help the president. She proposes a revamp of the constitution and bylaws. Hank Sturkie has suggested that some ideas for committees be mailed out to members. Some ideas that floated around about the committees were educational committee, publishing or public relations committee, nominating committee etc...
- Instructions for the Dyce Method for making creamed honey:
 1. Blend the honey to the desired color, flavor and moisture content.
 2. Pasteurize the honey you wish to crystallize by first heating the honey to 120 °F, then strain it to remove large impurities, especially wax particles. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kWugwfMct9o>

Raffle Winners:

10 Medium frames – Darlene Lockard

1 Frame for medium – Lavona Health

Nails – Darlene Lockard

Wax scratcher – Lavona Heath

MEBA cap- Drew White

Bee ornament and coaster – Drew White

Anti-Robbing device made by Tator – Christine and Jeff Macquarrie

Anti-Robbing device made by Tator –Lavona Health

Next meeting: Thursday July 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at Wytheville Community College in Smyth Hall room 122.

Adjourned: at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Armentrout, MEBA Secretary