Michigan Beekeepers' Association  
Board Meeting Minutes  
September 06, 2014

Members in attendance: Terry Toland, Ann Leonard, Stephen Tilmann, Don Schram, Zachary Huang, Clay Ottoni, Cindy Dudock, Bill Sirr, Norm Adams, Anne Marie Fauvel.

Meeting called to order by Terry Toland at 10:14am.

Additions and changes to the agenda were called for.

Secretary's Report (D. Schram): Minutes went out late, due to an error in sending email. The minutes were read by Schram. Corrections noted: Zachary Huang is the chairperson of HAS, and Anne Marie Fauvel had a misspelling. Motion to approve minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report (S. Tilmann): Current amount in checking is $32,946. The association had $277 in income in August. Expenses were $572 in total, with the breakdown being for bank expenses ($5), the spring conference movie ($300), and the summer picnic reimbursement ($267). Motion to accept. Motion passed.

MSU Report (Z. Huang): No new reports.

Fall Conference (T. Toland): Toland has been meeting with the staff at the Flint conference venue (Holiday Inn Gateway Flint). He presented to the group a map of the conference center and rooms available to us. Norm Adams is on deck for honey judging. Cindy Dudock is gathering volunteers for the hospitality suite. She also suggests using the suite for an unsupervised day care area. Use of the room was discussed at some length.

When booking rooms for the Holiday Inn, it is recommended to call the hotel direct and speak to a live person. Please mention “Michigan Beekeepers” to get the special room rate.

Tilmann has booked 5 rooms for the executive board, as well as a room for our guest speaker.

Breakout sessions were covered next in the meeting. We have 6 rooms for sessions.

Rick Hopman will do a mead demonstration on Friday afternoon. Bob Hollis will do a honey house talk. Charlotte Hubbard will do two undisclosed classes. Zachary Huang and Walter Pett will do two sessions on Foulbrood, as well as bringing in frames. (Huang asked Schram to bring powdered milk to do live Holst Milk Tests). Schram did a quick description of the Holst Milk Test for the benefit of the board.

Scheduling and speakers were done on a whiteboard.

The topic of vendors was discussed again.

Ballot concerns were also addressed.
**Spring Conference (Toland):** Highlights were touched upon.

Tilmann noted that there hasn't been any change in the Michelle Obama status since last meeting.

**HAS Committee (A.M. Fauvel):** Anne Marie Fauvel is the program chair for HAS. Bee Culture has agreed to provide ad space for HAS. ABJ is being approached to do the same. Hoopingarner, Connor and Clarence Colision are being approached to write a historical aspect article as a prelude to our association's 150th anniversary. Sponsorship is being pursued to help aid in paying for the big name speakers. Postcards, as a “save the date”, are being designed with the MBA on one side and HAS on the other. Albion is approving a one-day liquor/beer license, which is very surprising. Ken Schramm has agreed to conduct a mead demonstration. The Benzie Boys will play music at an evening social. Antique bee equipment will be brought in. Rich Wieske has different proposals and different asks, which were brought up to the group in a rapid fashion.

Fauvel is working on a matrix for the program. Tracks are being done. Speakers will be contacted, starting with the major keynotes. Speaker guidelines weren't necessarily followed in the past. She is both excited and a little fearful.

Wieske's proposals: The need for initial funding for postcards, banners, advertising and other printing, as well as travel expenses for HAS staff, a request for $2000 is made. Motion to contribute $2000 for this use, made by Sirr, seconded by Adams. Motion passed unanimously.

A request for MBA to contribute $3500 to sponsor a tent for 200-300 people, with our name on it. The use is unclear. The board felt that more clarification was needed before approval or denial of this request. Motion to table this request until more information is provided, made by Schram, seconded by Dudock. Motion to table passed.

**Constitutional Committee (D. Schram):** Schram provided an in depth explanation about the charges made to the constitutional committee, as well as the findings of the committee. The charge committee was made up of Sid Risk, Clay Ottoni, and Don Schram. Per the committee's findings, it was recommended that the only charge needing attention was to the aspect of removing wording regarding the local clubs collecting dues. The recommended action is to simply strikeout this section, and add wording that the section was removed intentionally, rather than rewrite the entire constitution. Motion to accept these suggested changes, was made by Norm Adams, seconded by Ann Leonard. Discussion was had with Bill Sirr providing historical insight. Motion passed. Questions about the wording upon the website, proper constitutional procedure and wording for ballots was hashed out with Tilmann.

**Election Committee (Toland):** At this time, all candidates are running unopposed. The slate is complete. For district representatives we have Anne Marie Fauvel for District 4, Bob Hollis for District 6. District 2 is in question with Meghan Milbrath being nominated. Ann Leonard (vice-president) and Stephen Tilmann (treasurer) are on board. Motion to close the election slate, made by Schram, seconded by Leonard. Motion carried.

**Correspondence (Tilmann):** Sylvia Benavidez, representing the Albion Honey Bee Festival at the Albion District Library asks to be placed on the MBA Calendar. The event is October 11, from 1-4pm. Vendors are welcomed. The board felt that we can assist by passing this information on to the club presidents and placing it on the MBA Calendar.
Another email from a member (Kidwell) was wondering about an email newsletter or email list. This was brought to the board's attention, as this is a common complaint heard to the board. Motion to table to the December meeting the possible creation a Communications Committee to aide in dissemination of information to the membership, with an eye towards finding a volunteer at the Fall Conference, made by Schram. It was decided that no vote was needed, as this is a committee position appointed by the president.

Go To Meeting (Tilmann): Our subscription was renewed recently and unexpectedly for about $300. Joel Lantz was asked to pursue the task, however, was dissuaded. Tilmann will contact Lantz and give him the passwords to pursue this again.

Value Added Items: Schram will be bringing more samples to the next meeting.

Memorial: Gilbert Terry passed away. It was decided that the MBA will make a memorial contribution to the Freemont foundation in Gilbert's name, once we receive the contact information. This information will be coming from Clay Ottoni directly to Steve Tilmann.

December 6th is our next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 1:54pm.