Michigan Beekeepers Association

Minutes

January 2, 2016

Present: Terry Toland, Therese McCarthy, Bob Hollis, Walter Pett, Cindy Dubock, Sheldon Schwitek, Meghan Milbrath, Melissa Jaskiewicz Online: Rich Weiske, Matt Tanana

Guests: Richard Leonard

Regrets:

Call to Order @ 10:15

Motion to Approve Agenda: Moved; Steve, 2nd, Cindy, Passed unanimously

Previous Minutes: Cindy reviewed pervious minutes;

- Motion: To accept Secretary report.
  Moved: Meghan, Second: Therese, , Passed unanimously

Financial Report:

See Attached PDF

I was discussed that we have a number of Honey Sticks that are available educational purposes to clubs and member throughout the state. If people want to resell them, they can be purchased at cost.

- Motion: To accept Treasurers report.
  Moved: Bob Hollis, Second: Sheldon Schwitek, Passed unanimously

Reports

1. Member Communications- Meghan
   - FaceBook
     i. Melville has stepped down and is now an Editor
     ii. Meghan is the Admin for FaceBook now.
   - Website
     i. Meghan is now administering the website. Steve will continue to provide support during the transition.
   - Constant Contact
     i. Steve needs to meet with Meghan to clarify how to fully utilize this service. As well as to understand the different lists to membership and others.
• Meghan needs to understand the lists of Members and Board Members and those who are just on a basic list.
  i. Membership renewal notice needs to be sent out.
  ii. Need to create a “benefits of being a member” as a part of the call for renewal.
• Membership page in Website should be looked at for updating
  i. Mite Check
  ii. Conferences
  iii. Grants
  iv. Etc.
• By-Laws to be sent to Sheldon and reviewed for updates. He will review to see what may need to adjusted and updated.
• Job Descriptions for Board members to be reviewed and created.

2. Michigan Dept. of Ag- Mike Hansen
• Not Present

3. MSU- Walter and Meghan
• Meeting with Chair of Animal Vet and Diagnostic Clinic
  i. Working with them to be able to provide the service. Both groups are excited about doing so.
• Pollination Protection
  i. Brian Roe was head of the pesticide division and has retired. He was knowledgeable and it is uncertain on who will replace him. He is a beekeeper. He did reporting for Pesticide Kill reporting as well.
  ii. There is a meeting this month to discuss his replacement.
    • There is some concern about who is going to replace him, as it is uncertain.
  iii. Annual Pollinator meeting at MSU related to pollinators.
    • Working to develop an annual plan for MSU and what it is going to do.
    • Commercial beekeeping program for undergrads is being explored.
  iv. Programing and space on MSU Campus for beekeeping and research and teaching.
    • Bee Building on campus, but there are no bathroom facilities. Or classroom space.
    • Pursuing a space for a classroom is a long-term initiative on the part of the department of Entomology.
    • MBA may be able to support making this happen, as we also need space for meetings and classrooms.
• It was noted that the Fruit Tree Commission banded together and paid to refurbish 2 buildings and funded a position and some research. As did Soybean Commission
• There is a pole barn on campus that has facilities that Walter has used in the past.
• Terry will start the conversation with Walter and explore what options can be pursued. To be added as an agenda item.

Old Business

1. Spring Conference,
   a. Shifting Rooms
      i. Big Ten C is occupied for a Friday night with another banquet.
      ii. Format will be the same this year,
   b. Keynote Speakers: Gary & Jenny Reuter
      i. Tech Transfer
      ii. Sanitation- Keeping healthy colonies
         • They are doing it there already.
         • What can we do keep healthy bees
      iii. Winterizing
      iv. Jenny- Lotions and waxes, ?
   c. Special Guest:
      i. Rose Lynn Fisher and her microscopic photography.
         • Unable to make the event.
      ii. Friday night will still be the beekeeper auction and a cash bar.
      iii. Featured guest-Francois
         • Is willing to do a short talk on utilizing honey in cooking
         • Hors d’oeuvres are an option, as demonstration and samples
   d. Breakouts
      i. Ann has a list created, see attached.
      ii. Keynote will be doing 2 presentations repeated both days.
   e. Volunteers
      i. Sheldon will co-ordinate
      ii. Students will still be asked
   f. Vendors
      i. Steve created a page for the fee structure and registration
      ii. Vendor fees do not include a lunch. Each table includes admission for 2 people.
   g. Seed Bombs:
      i. Seed needs to be purchased
      ii. Therese will be setting it up and create a display
         • She will also be providing
      iii. **Motion:** to cover the costs of supplies and seeds for this workshop at $350
- Moved: Sheldon Schwitek, 2nd: Steve Tillman. Carried unanimously
  h. Children’s Activity
    i. Cindy will explore what the 4-H will need to cover costs.

2. Summer Picnic
   a. A pavilion behind the honey festival would cost $206, if we wanted to partner with them.
   b. Attendance would not include admission to honey festival
   c. Motion: MBA host their summer picnic on Aug 6 in conjunction with the Honey Festival.
      Moved: Therese McCarthy, Second: Cindy Dubock, Passed unanimously
   d. Motion: MBA make a contribution of $2000 to the Honey Festival
      i. Moved: Rich Weiske, Second: Therese McCarthy, Passed unanimously
   e. Once again this year’s picnic will be a potluck, with MBA making their usual contribution of a main course.

3. Fall Conference
   a. Speaker has to be confirmed, but Debbie Delany has agreed, Details need to be finalized
   b. Rich and Terry will pursue the location that Rich has looked at the Chelsea Comfort Inn & Village Conference Center

4. MDOT Brochure & Advertising
   a. Therese
      i. Did some editing and will get 10,000 printed.
   b. Advertising for Spring Conference
      i. January and February in the following areas need to be pursued
         - Ohio, Indiana and Illinois
         - Bee Culture and ABJ
         - WKAR- Event Calendar

New Business

1. Correspondence
   a. Letter to request publicity for Apitherapy Conference.
      i. Meghan will add it to the website and Sheldon to the Calendar

2. Board Manual
   a. Job Descriptions need to be developed for new positions and also revisited for current positions
   b. Also, new by-laws need to be updated into a current version.

Next Meeting
- February 6th

Motion to Adjourn: Therese McCarthy