Michigan Beekeepers Association
Minutes

February 6, 2016

Present: Terry Toland, Ann Leonard, Chris Beck, Greg Willis, Walter Pett, Roger Hoopengarner, Mike Hanson, Tyler Allan, Cindy Dudock, Therese McCarthy, Rich Wieske
Remote: Joel Lantz, Matt Tanana

Guests:

Regrets: Anne Marie Fauvel, Don Lam, Meghan Milbrath, Dave Anthony.

Agenda: Motion to Accept: Steve Tillman. 2nd Walter Pett, Carried unanimously.

Previous Minutes: Motion to Accept: Ann Leonard. 2nd Cindy, Carried unanimously.

- All board members need to be “members in good standing”. Please pay your dues.
- Advertising for MBA website.
  - Needs to be promoted.
  - Discussion to follow about how to handle this moving forward. Who’s purview does this fall under.
  - Notice for the conference went out late. Steve did get it out.
    - Second notice needs to go out in about 2 weeks.
  - There have been increased views with new website.
- Motion to Accept: Roger Hoopengarner, 2nd Joel Lantz, Carried unanimously.

Old Business
1. Member Communications, Meghan Milbrath. (Terry reporting)
   a. The board has grown considerably.
   b. Job Description
      i. Social Media
      ii. Constant Contact
      iii. Website
         1. Laura ?- Web assistant
            a. Currently contacts and database maintenance.
            b. Advertising
            c. Classifieds
   c. Originally, membership was under the Secretary duties.
      i. There are a number ways in which these areas overlap, particularly around conference registrations,
   d. District Rep quarterly reports will be handled by Joel.
e. Steve has started to develop an outline of the various roles he has held in the past.
   i. Possible for
   ii. Board area of the website needs to be utilized
      1. Documents
      2. Minutes
      3. Reports
f. Created a Communication board position that continues to emerge.
g. Action items
   i. Email dist. list
      1. Constant Contact
      2. Sheldon has started a Google doc list.
         a. policy
h. The executive needs to develop job descriptions in order to see what we need to do to fairly divide the workload and if we need to pay for additional help.

2. MDOT Brochure/Advertising, Therese McCarthy
   a. Terry identified a need to develop a corporate membership.
   b. Web advertising would need to be a part of this.
   c. MDOT Brochures have been completed and sent out to MDOT
   d. Therese and Meghan are working on a member communication to go to clubs and what we can provide to them.

3. Michigan Department of Agriculture – Mike Hansen
   a. Antibiotics for Bees
      i. Federal Directive
         1. All OTC antibiotics are not longer available beginning 2017
         2. Needs to issued by vet.
            a. Vet needs to be in relationship with the beekeeper. It is up to the vets discretion as they are the one liable, if there are any issues.
      ii. Therese working through veterinarians. And Meghan and Walt with MSU and Mike in communication with the state veterinarian.
      iii. With all these players, he feels that we are getting close to having a way of implementing the new rules.
      iv. Vets to sign up. Encourage.
      v. Training opportunity for MBA to teach and support beekeepers. So that we have a more educated workforce.
   b. Pollinator Protection
      i. 7 million acres, decrease loss to 15%, monarch butterflies.
      ii. Mon Butterflies are at risk and if they are declared endangered, it will make the use of pesticides even more concerning.
   c. Bart Smith from Beltsville
      i. He has retired
         1. Sam Abban (technician) is continuing to run the day to day.
         2. There is going to be a search for a replacement.
   d. Fall reports on losses
i. Eastern states, Ohio, Indiana - are reporting significant losses to IPBD.

e. Pollinator Protection Plan meeting on Feb 22, 2016
   i. Need to have a number of beekeepers present (one in each group).
   ii. The intention is to gather with commodity groups (plant, Agri-business, etc.) in order to make sure everyone has representation.

f. List of products available for treating varroa has been released by the EPA
   i. Registrant needed for each treatment and they need to be registered to then sell it in each state
   ii. Manufacturers are not willing to take on registration.
   iii. Bee Suppliers are the ones who are registering.

4. MSU – Walter Pett, Zachary Huang
   a. PPP initial meeting
      i. Looking for 60 people total.
         1. At least 6 beekeepers present.
         2. Chris Peterson - Facilitator
         3. in Okemos. Lunch provided
   b. Diagnostics- DCPAW
      i. may be able to provide the service for beekeepers in the state.
   c. Prescriptions
      i. MSU Pharmacy is being targeted as a supplier for antibiotics.
      ii. Vets can get the antibiotics overnight but it will increase costs due to the need to larger quantities than on person might need.
   d. 19 out of 20 spots filled in Honeybee entomology.

5. Old Business
   A. Spring Conference March 11th – 12th, 2016 Kellogg Center, Michigan State University
      1. Key Note Speakers; Gary and Jenny Reuter
         a. Jenny will not be able to make it.
      2. Special Guest; Chef Jean-Francois Faloppa
         a. To replace Roslyn Fisher
         b. 7-11 social event
         c. volunteers to carry samples
         d. Treat his compensation for like he was a keynote.
            Motion to compensate for room, registration for him and his wife and $500 in expenses. Rich, Therese
   3. Breakouts
      a. Bee Blessing
         i. Motion to compensate her a $250 for doing the blessing at the opening of the conference.
      b. Silent Auction
         i. need a volunteer to run it. If that is what we want to do.
         ii. Table it and roll it into the regular auction on Friday night
      c. District Reps meeting
         i. Possible meeting on Saturday morning
ii. Motion; Cindy, Ann

d. Breakout sessions will be posted online.
e. Projectors
   i. MBA owns 3.
   ii. Walt 2 or 3
   iii. Sheldon and Steve.
   iv. Sheldon will purchase another one for the club in conjunction with Rich’s recent research.

4. Live Auction – Moved to Friday night

5. Volunteers – Sheldon Schwitek
   a. Still only have a half dozen people.
b. Volunteers will be sought out from the following
   i. Honey Festival membership for volunteers
   ii. Club presidents
   iii. Joel

6. Seed Bombs – Therese McCarthey
   a. Therese did a great job of pulling that together. Kudos to her.
b.

7. Children’s Activity Room – Cindy Dudock
   a. 4-H club to coordinate it.
      i. Package seed shake.
b. Motion: to provide the $200 to Rich, Roger.

8. Hotel rooms
   a. Kellogg Center block is booked.
b. Terry is exploring other room blocks elsewhere.
   i. Marriott and the place across the street.

B. Summer Picnic August 6th, 2016 Frankenmuth
   a. No discussion
   b. Full Bee Blessing at this event
      i. Need to talk about

C. Fall Conference
   1. Debbie Delaney
   2. Chelsea only seat 300 people and nothing else.
   3. Some discussion around future speakers. Rich is trying to stay a couple of years out on speakers.

D. Job Descriptions
   a. See earlier discussion.

1. New Business

A. Correspondence
   a. Lawsuit letter came forth that we were asked to sign off on.
      i. A scan of the request will be sent out with these minutes. Discussion to follow at a future meeting.
   b. Some discussion around the lawsuit of the EPA by the Pollinator Stewardship Council.

B. Charlotte Hubbard- Children’s Book.
   a. Self published. Providing up to 1000 copies for MBA to use for educational purposes.
b. Motion to accept her offer of 1000 free books to be utilized for educational purposes.
C. Prisoner Education;
   a. Rich reported that he had talked with John Hansen, who was the primary beekeeper for
      the program at O’Hare Airport. They talked about how the program started and who is
      running it now. Rich has contact info for David Robbins now at O’Hare, formerly from
      Detroit Metro Rich will be visiting O’Hare April 1 to talk more.

D. Pole Barn- Education space.
   a. To be discussed after conference.

E. Developing Education aspect.
   a. Holding workshops.
   b. Post Secondary educational opportunities
   c. Committee created to explore further and get back to the board
      i. Therese, Sheldon, and Rich
         1. w/ Walter, Meghan.
   d. Keynote Videos from HAS are being posted.

- Next Meeting – April 2nd, May 7th
- Adjournment- Therese