
Meeting called to order at 10:03am.

Call for changes and additions to the agenda.

Approval of the agenda, motion passed.

Approval of the minutes, motion passed.

Treasurer’s Report, S. Tilmann: Current Treasurer’s report shows 298 Paypal transactions since the last meeting, for a total amount of $7921. 40 check transactions, totaling $2070. This makes a total of 338 transactions totaling $9991. Currently the MBA has $28,499.71 in checking.

Sources of income are $5680 in member dues and $775 advertising. The Fall Conference brought in $9516.

Expenses this period are bank expenses $316, website $308, Spring Conference (including speaker fees) $1460, Summer Conference $75, Fall Conference $500, grants to MSU $3000, and organizational expenses $1202 (basically club stipends).

Motion made to accept treasurers report, made by D. Anthony and seconded by J. Dodder. Motion passed.

Spring Conference Recap (S. Tilmann): 493 total attendees, 302 which were MBA members and 191 non-members.

S. Tilmann commented that we are showing increased activity with Facebook and Constant Contact. This coincides with an increase of membership.

In website news, the domain name was transferred and the new email account host is GoDaddy. M. O’Neill asks if there is a way to make the swarm removal maps and honey locator maps more prominent on the website? S. Tilmann will look into it.
A. Foster brought up suggestions regarding usability of the website. S. Tilmann would like those suggestions sent to him.

T. Toland would like to see a small committee in charge of speaking to the media and getting the word out about conferences, the club, and beekeeping in general. He would like to see someone in the position promoting honey and beekeeping in Michigan. A. Leonard says that we’re supposed to have a Honey Promotion Committee. We currently don’t. Ag Hall, at MSU, has a Michigan Agriculture Promotion group. They are fee based, per S. Tilmann, and charges approximately $70 per hour. But, we’re not looking at hours and hours of work, he said. To find someone in our organization with that particular skill set may be impossible, he added. R. Wieske feels that we should put out the feelers for someone on the website. Cindy Dudock, Angie Foster and David Anthony would like to be on the committee, but would need guidance. D. Anthony is a huge resource regarding contacts.

S. Tilmann suggested that we purchase more data logging regarding website hits. This is at an increased fee of roughly $250 a year.

T. Toland would like two separate proposals: One, to share the website stat information with the new media committee who will distribute it to the clubs and get feedback whether this information is important and usable, per D. Anthony and seconded by A. Foster. Motion died on the table. A. Leonard feels that this should go directly to the local club presidents and not to a committee. And, two, to spend more money for more data. This item is tabled via discussion. [Secretary's note: This motion technically died on the table, since, per Robert's Rules, tabled items need to have a time set to readdress the motion. None was set intentionally.]

M. Hansen will not be attending this meeting, per email communication.

Old Business
Spring Conference Recap: T. Toland would like to get the feedback papers (Evaluation Forms) from S. Tilmann. C. Dudock would like the instructors to get the feedback also. T. Toland says board needs to look at the comments and see who needs to be asked back as an instructor. T. Toland, when he receives the forms, will compile the data into a single report. S. Tilmann and A. Leonard looked at them together. Space and room size (or lack thereof) is the biggest complaint. Almost 100 people stayed after for the movie Vanishing of the Bees. We distributed a membership survey, like we did in 2010.

A. Foster proposes the board finish the evaluation and the membership survey by collecting the data in a coversheet, for each presenter, for preparation at the Fall Conference. A. Foster will compile the results, after A. Leonard and T. Toland finish reviewing the raw data.
T. Toland would like to see more MBA promotional materials given away in a Welcome Package to our members at the conference. Discussion followed. E. Lansing has a Chamber of Commerce that can supply the bags and brochures.

**Summer Picnic (T. Toland):** Correspondence to Clay has been sparse, but friendly.

**Fall Conference:** October 5/6 at the Holiday Inn Gateway Centre in Flint. Guest speaker will be Dann Purvis, formerly of Purvis Brothers Queens. [Secretary's note: Please notice that “Dann” is properly spelled with two 'n's.]

A discussion of the classes to be presented followed. Beginner track classes for the Fall Conference were discussed. Toland feels no, as he feels we’ll be past the fall management curve for the beginners, and new beginners aren’t thinking about beginning with bees in the fall. A. Foster feels that we should have a Review of your First Beekeeping Year type class. A. Leonard feels that we need to keep older beekeepers involved and interested. The need for a New Beginner class in the fall was discussed. Dale Woods may be able to present to beginners in the fall. A discussion about having a beginner track held concurrently during the business meeting was had, and was determined to be a bad idea since we want to encourage more people to attend the business meeting.

D. Schram proposes that **we contact Dale Woods to do an Intro to Beginning Beekeeping class in the fall**, seconded by C. Dudock. **Motion passed.**

Honey judging will be back, per Toland.

Custom garden hives will be presented. At the spring conference, Toland would like to see a Garden Hive competition also.

R. Wieske wonders what classes will be available to older beekeepers. A. Leonard and K. Hoekstra explained what the past meetings were like. D. Anthony summarized how the commercial beekeepers interests differ from the MBA’s focus.

The conversation got way off track with discussion regarding clubs, Club President’s Roundtables, the calendar on the website, etc. Terry Toland got us back on track.

Discussions about the Honey Judging followed. Toland suggested to seek out Bill Sirr, Roger Sutherland and Fritz Sanders, in addition to Norm Adams, who performed our last honey judging, to discuss honey judging rules.

D. Anthony suggests that we have flyers for the upcoming conference distributed at the current conference.

**New Business:**
**Club Stipends:** The checks have been done, per S. Tilmann.
**MDOT Flyers:** C. Dudock volunteered to work with B. Hollis. Instead of a trifold, they would like to do a 1/3 page, front and back single card brochure. Hollis was supposed to come back with a proposal. Dudock will get pricing and order information. She requests assistance for content on it. Suggestions followed.

**Mileage for board members in attendance:** S. Tilmann developed a budgetary impact for the board members on Excel with MapQuest. Reimbursement would be approximately $300 to $150 per meeting. This was an idea originally brought up by S. Tilmann on how to improve attendance by board members. D. Anthony asked who are the board members? We defined it as the Executive board, district reps and club reps. (Those who are defined by the constitution.) **No proposal or motion was made, due to lack of interest to entertain.** We moved on.

**Roxi Davidek – Proposal on newsletter:** Roxi handed out a mock up of the proposed newsletter. This would be primarily for those who do not have web access. She is proposing a newsletter every 3 months. People who would like the newsletter mailed to them need to opt IN by calling her. People are automatically opted OUT. Pricing: 11x17 500 copies $107 (b/w), 8.5x14 is $75 for 500 copies. $65.12 for 500 copies at Bay-Arenac ISD Printing Services. Other services are available. A discussion regarding how to handle the confidential mailing list followed. Roxi will have to learn how to use the internet based membership list, says Tilmann. Black and white printing of the newsletter was selected, instead of color.

A Leonard reviewed the minutes. **We send out the newsletter to all the membership of the MBA,** proposed by D. Anthony, and seconded by C. Dudock.

Discussions followed. $106.37 is 500 newletters printed, ready for mail, but needing postage and mailing address labels. Postage will be an additional $200 per mailing. The newsletter is proposed to be printed every 4 months, to correspond with the major MBA conferences.

**Amendments to the motion:** Roxi to continue forward with the project, and for her to remain as editor for the newsletter, by A. Foster, Seconded by D. Anthony.

The newsletter will be brought to the executive board for approval before mailing.

Roxi will need to learn the membership list, which was reiterated by Tilmann.

**Motion carried.**

Small changes to the proposed newsletter will be taken care of by Terry after the meeting.
**Correspondence:** Honey sticks were distributed at the Northern Michigan Blueberry Festival. A $192.02 reimbursement for honey sticks from Nature’s Kick was asked for for sticks that were handed out at the festival. Booth space reimbursement was not asked for. ** Moved to reimburse for the honey sticks for the amount of $192.02 to Barb Pepp for reimbursement of personal funds,** made by S. Tilmann and seconded by J. Dodder. **Motion passed.**

Temple School of Oakland County asked to make a donation to a beekeeping organization, like the MBA. They suggested that we, in turn, sponsor a student to attend, say, the Spring Conference, however, they decided to make an unrestricted gift to support beekeeping. It was suggested by S. Tilmann that we need to see about a “Donate” button on the website. T. Toland suggested also seeing about how to get a “Donate” button for the Freemont foundation.

Honey sticks given to the school was discussed, and a followup question about honey sticks followed.

Terry has 1 sealed case of honey straws. He reported that one case was sold to B. Hollis and another part of a case was meted out by requests. Terry Feels that we need to order more.

Piggybacked onto the discussion, Toland mentioned that he has less than 2 cases of coloring books in his possession. Roger Hoopingarner (Past-President) may have more, so he is unsure of how many is in current inventory.

Price breaks regarding case pricing was discussed for honey sticks. Flavored honey sticks are not available, and have not been ordered in the past, due to the MBA wanting to present the natural flavors of honey to students.

The board now has general knowledge that the president will order more sticks and coloring books at his discretion. **[Secretary's note: In the past minutes, the president was given standing permission to re-order honey sticks and coloring books as needed.]**

The next MBA event is the summer picnic. The election committee has to be formed at the picnic for the fall meeting's upcoming election for the positions of Vice-President, Treasurer, Member at Large, and odd numbered district representatives. Nominations for Beekeeper of the Year will also be asked for. The election committee will need to have the slate announced before the Fall Meeting, in time to comply with constitutional time requirements.

The next board meeting is to be announced, per review of the football schedule.
**D. Anthony:** A school teacher in the Lapeer school district that teaches handicapped and underprivileged children is asking for the MBA for donations to help teach these kids. His curriculum has been written up in American Bee Journal. It was agreed that the executive board will move on the potential of donation after reviewing the article. **Motion that the executive committee decide and take action on the request,** made by S. Tilmann and seconded by R. Wieske. **Motion passed.**

**Essay for 4H Members:** An eleven year old from Marquette wrote an essay about beekeeping. A. Leonard will contact him to see about posting it on the MBA website.

**R. Wieske – Oral History Program:** Rich has spoke with Tammy Horn and Cindy Bee regarding beekeeping history. He is finding lots of printed materials and needs a place to archive them. A detailing of Rich’s credentials was given. He is asking for **$3000 for lodging, mileage and per diem with the intent to conduct 10-12 in-depth interviews with older beekeepers across the state, and report back in 14 months. Motion to approve the $3000 funding,** made by D. Anthony and seconded by S. Tilmann. **Motion passed.**

**UM Dearborn:** The Environmental Interpretive center at the UM Dearborn, received a $5000 grant from the Ford Motor Company for 10 hives. Volunteers from Ford came out to donate labor. R. Wieske is training the volunteers to work the hives. They would like to submit a grant request to the MBA to ask for 30 medium boxes, and additional equipment, at the cost of $500 dollars. They were invited to present a request.

**Project RED:** Project RED asked if the MBA would be interested in having a presence at Project RED in Lansing. COMB may be interested in becoming involved too. S. Tilmann will get more information on the event.

**Motion to adjourn 12:59pm.**