Secretary's Minutes from the
2013 MBA Fall Meeting – Holiday Inn Gateway Center, Flint, MI

Saturday, October 26, 2013

36 members in the gallery, including board members. Executive board members present: Terry Toland, Ann Leonard, Don Schram, Stephen Tilmann. Board members present include: Cindy Dudock, Rich Wieske, Mike Risk, Richard Leonard, Norm Adams, Bob Hollis, Anne Marie Fauvel, Ken Hoekstra, Dale Woods, and Don McChristenson. Our guest speaker at the conference was Jane Burgess.

Attendance for the two day event was 119 pre-registered attendees, with 35 walk-in registrants, with additional uncounted attendees today (Saturday). This is an increase from last year, which was 124 total attendees over the two days. There were 179 attendees in 2011.

Meeting called to order at 3:33pm, by President Terry Toland.

Changes and additions to the agenda were called for. Addition asked for by President T. Toland was the addition of the Honey Judging results. Motion to approve the agenda by Cindy Dudock and seconded by Norm Adams. Motion approved.

Secretary's Report (D. Schram): Secretary Don Schram thanked the members who came to the conference and then read the highlights from last year's minutes. Treasurer Steve Tilmann asked to be able to post the minutes on the website, and was given the green light to do so. Schram also asked that any members who were interested in receiving the minutes contact him, and the past minutes would be emailed out. Motion to accept Secretary's Report, made by Cindy Dudock, and seconded by Scott Austin. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report (S. Tilmann): Treasurer S. Tilmann reported that the association currently has $40,320 in cash, with the breakdown being $25,265 in checking, and $15,055 in a Certificate of Deposit. This is a net increase from last year's ending balance ($35,503 in 2012) of $4,817. Memorial contributions to the Freemont Foundation this past year were also reported to be significant. Tilmann explained to the membership what the Freemont Foundation is and how it works.

Expenses this year were $26,790, which is an increase of $2,612 in expenses from last year. Tilmann told how much of this was website expenses, and how it offset the additional increases in income.

Last year, the MBA created a budget for 2013. Our estimated income predicted by budget was $26,500, with our actual income being $31,552. Budgeted expenses were estimated to be $28,000, with the actual expenses for the year being $26,790.

Grants issued for the year were $3000 to MSU and Zachary Huang's lab, $2000 to the Michigan Honey Festival, $1500 was given to the MBA Oral History Project by Rich Wieske, and Memorial Contributions of $600, for a total of $7100 given in grants for 2013.

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report by Mike Risk, and seconded by Richard Leonard. Motion passed.
**Membership Report (S. Tilmann):** Current membership stands at 696 members for this year, up 140 from last year. There are 253 lapsed members this year, with no contact with them for the last three years. Tilmann reported on “self enrolled” members (followers of our website and Facebook) are up from 381 to 615 people.

**Website Report (S. Tilmann):** Tilmann highlighted various aspects and benefits of advertising on the website, along with value added features available to our membership, such as the Swarm Call List, Cut Out List, and Honey Locator. Website analytics were also detailed and explained.

In general announcements, Tilmann noted that memberships expire on December 31 and members can renew online. We do need volunteers for assistance in creating a local ordinances initiative. We are also looking for assistance with MBA’s Facebook page and posting timely updates. [Secretary’s Note: After the meeting, member Melville Kennedy volunteered to assist in maintaining the Facebook page.]

In addition, there are always various MBA committees that can use assistance.

**Auditor’s Report (M. Risk):** Members Mike Risk and Dennis Vesper reviewed the books and thanked Treasurer Tilmann for his obvious attention to detail. The books were reported to be in order. Motion to accept the Auditor's Report, made by Cindy Dudock and seconded by Sabrina VanDyke. Motion passed.

**Old Business (T. Toland):**

**ANR Week – Spring 2014:** The Spring Conference, held at ANR Week at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, will take place on Friday, March 7 and Saturday, March 8, 2014. We are featuring our guest speaker, John Miller, who is the president of the California State Beekeepers' Association, a commercial beekeeper maintaining 12,300 hives, and the subject of the book “The Beekeeper's Lament”. He will also be featured in the documentary “More Than Honey”. [Secretary's Note: John Miller is a very lively and animated speaker, and his presence at our meeting will be talked about for time to come.]

**2014 Summer Picnic:** The Summer Picnic will be held on July 26, 2014, and hosted by the Saginaw Valley Beekeepers. The location is to be announced.

**2014 Fall Conference:** The MBA Fall Conference will again be held at the Holiday Inn Gateway Center in Flint, and will feature as guest speaker David Hackenberg. David Hackenberg is a commercial pollinator and is known to probably put more miles on his bees each year than any other beekeeper in America. He is also the first beekeeper to report on the condition known as CCD. He should be an interesting and informative speaker.

**ANR Week – Spring 2015:** 2015 is our anniversary year. In 2015, the Michigan Beekeepers’ Association will be 150 years old. [Secretary's Note: We are the nation's oldest, continually operated, agricultural association!] We anticipate hosting at least 2 keynote speakers and are planning for this to be a very special event.

**2015 Summer Picnic:** It is the board's intention to approach the beekeeping clubs on the westside to host our 2015 picnic. We hope to hold our 2015 Summer Picnic in the Grand Rapids area.

**2016 Summer Picnic:** The board would like to find a club and location near Ypsilanti to host our 2016 Summer Picnic.
Election Results (T. Toland): For this election, there were no candidates running opposed, nor were there any nominations from the floor. Melissa Hronkin, representative in District 7 (The UP), declined to contact the board and accept renomination. Joel Lantz accepted the nomination. Motion made to accept the results of the election, made by Cindy Dudock and seconded by Scott Austin, passed. [Secretary's Note: As no physical ballots were cast or counted, no motion to destroy the ballots was necessary.]

The results of the election are as follows:
President: Terry Toland
Secretary: Don Schram
Representative District 1: Ken Hoekstra
Representative District 3: Dennis Holly
Representative District 5: Larry Hilbert
Representatives District 7: John Hugo, Ed Wright, Joel Lantz

New Business
Honey Show (Honey Judge Norm Adams): Judge Adams announced that the honey show this year had double the number of entrants from last year. There were 16 entries, over last year's 8. Entrants participated in 5 color classes with 1 comb category and 1 wax entry. “It is wonderful! Bring in your best stuff! Honey judges itself! Make me earn my keep!” he exclaimed. With this, he read the results for the 2013 MBA Honey Show, and awarded certificates.

White Honey:
1st Place: Chris Beck
2nd Place: Ken Hoekstra

Extra Light Amber Honey:
1st Place: Dale Kaehn
2nd Place: Chris Beck
3rd Place: Senad Livadic
4th Place: Terry Toland
5th Place: Tom Dominick

Light Amber Honey:
1st Place: Liz Masters
2nd Place: Mary Kinney (tie)
2nd Place: Richard Leonard (tie)

Amber Honey:
1st Place: Chris Beck
2nd Place: Penny Rienas

Dark Amber Honey 1st Place: Ken Harnick

Comb Honey 1st Place: Mary Kinney

Bees Wax 1st Place: Chris Beck
Best of Show:
1st Place: Dale Kaehn, for his Extra Light Amber Honey entry.
2nd Place: Chris Beck, for his Bee Wax entry.

Board Meeting (T. Toland): The next board meeting will be held on Saturday, November 9, 2013 in the Natural Science Building, 2nd floor, on the campus of MSU, 10am. Saturday, January 4, 2014, 10am, will be the following board meeting.

Adjourned 4:16p.