Michigan Beekeepers Association
Minutes
April 1, 2015

Present: Terry Toland, Anne Leonard, Therese McCarthy, Don Lam, Chris Beck, Zachary Huang, Walter Pett, Greg Willis, Cindy Dudock, Steve Tillman

Guests: Theresa Wyatt (Treasurer in training)

Regrets: Meghan

Agenda:
Additions;
• Research Grant
• Survey Summery.
Motion to approve Agenda; Steve, 2nd Cindy, Carried

Previous Minutes:
Motion to approve Minutes: Greg, 2nd; Therese.

Financial Report:
See attached Report
Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report

The Executive Board is currently trying to divide the out the roles of Treasurer, Member Communications and Web Presence and Social Media. This is still being sorted out. There may be a need for a couple of people to help with the support, maintenance, and reporting of the website

Member Communications:

1. I have created a new mailing list that has all the board members, Mike, Walt, and Zach; and all the club contact info. Please ask people to use that one instead of the current one (I"m still not on the one that is most commonly used, and I won't be president of A2B2 much longer, and I think it would be useful for the communications person to get emails from the club). The list is here. https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1wWEHT7QK-bVhMoDI2NRwIKFUYHNоворНJ2C2U_ppGac/edit?usp=sharing

2. I have updated the part of the website where the swarm map and cut-out map is held. http://www.michiganbees.org/problem-and-unwanted-bees/. Since the target audience for those two groups are people who are not beekeepers who would be calling in, I made the page directed to them (no regular human knows what a cut-out it is - if they have bees in their house, they think they have a
swarm). Feedback is fine.

3. On that topic: I talked to Laurel about this, and she and I agreed that it was weird that we charge for this. I would like to suggest that this be a perk to our members. This would also be something nice for the membership, since there aren't many tangible perks. I think that it would also cut down on logistics, if people could just post, and then it gets scrubbed every year. Right now, it is basically empty, so I would like to send out an email to membership reminding them of this option, and I'd like to do it before swarm season.

4. Could we please send out a schedule for MBA meetings, dates for fall conference for the year? I would like to just set up email reminders to everyone, and it would be easiest for me to set up zoom meetings all at once. Plus, I work most weekends, but can leave them open if I know in advance we will have a meeting.

5. I have started the newsletters. What I have done on that front:
   a) Contacted every beekeeping organization in MI, and made sure their contact info was up to date - this is still coming in, so it will be a work in progress for a few weeks.
   b) Told each president/contact of a bee club what district they are in, and who their representative is, and that they will be asked for feedback.
   c) Set up a folder and newsletter templates for district representatives. We will start the newsletter this month (April 2016).

6. Meghan is working on job descriptions with laurel, and I'll keep in contact about that.

**MDOT Brochures**
   a. Have been sent out to MDOT
   b. They are available to members as requested.

**MSU- Walter Pett**
   a. ?
   b. Winter Loss Survey
   c. Pollinator protection
      i. mp3 project from meetings
      ii. April 11, steering committee is meeting. Meghan, Rufus, Farm Bureau,
      iii. Currently collecting input for stakeholders.

**MDA- Mike Hansen- State Apiarist?**
   1. Regarding the MP3 project, Meghan and Walt have been involved in the communications and planning, I'm sure they can provide an appropriate
update as we’re just getting started. Jeff Zimmer (MDARD) and myself, Larry Olsen from MSU, and Tim DeKorne (MCBA) attended the MP3 program in Washington DC recently.

2. Winter Loss survey.
   a. You may be aware that USDA has asked NASS (Ag Statistics) to start taking leadership on the honey bee loss survey. My understanding is that NASS will use a series of surveys throughout the year to measure loss based on beekeeper responses. I thought I heard that Bee Informed Partnership may do some polling of beekeepers for loss information. I’ve not heard anything more than some side discussion from Dennis Van Engelsdorp.

3. Sources of bees:
   a. It’s that time of year when I start getting calls from beekeepers looking for bees. Mostly I’m directing them to the MBA Website, and suggesting they look at suppliers who have stock listed with MBA, and or to check the websites for local/regional clubs for available packages and nucs. It would be helpful to remind bee suppliers that advertising their supplies through the club websites is one of the few ways that I have in directing potential beekeepers to their businesses.

4. MDARD
   a. MDARD is in line to take 24 National Bee Survey samples this summer and fall. If beekeepers are interested in participating, I’d like to know who, and when their bees are going to be available. In the past several years I’ve coupled the bee survey with movement inspections. This summer I want to reach out to some of those beekeepers that move their bees to Florida early (August) and are not available in the fall. We have a good pool of beekeepers to choose from, but I’m open to expanding that pool. To participate, there should be 10 colonies in the yard (or more) from which we would sample 8. I generally have the sample kits by June.

Old Business
1. Spring Conference
   a. Recap
      i. Feedback regarding the repetition of the Keynote Presentations. However, there were no other classes scheduled as was originally planned.
      ii.
   b. See Photos from conversation.
      i. ?
2. Summer Picnic
   a. Set for Frankenmuth.
   b. Prepare to clarify the cost for Honey Festival is separate.
   c. there will be a need to coordinate the picnic itself
      i. who are the clubs who want to “host” it.
         • Committee from Seven Ponds, Mid Michigan, Saginaw Valley.

3. Fall Conference
   a. Debbie Delany confirmed
      i. There will be a General Session with Debbie (3 topics) and others
   b. Location:
      Motion to host conf. in Flint
      Steve & Don
   c. Honey Judging: Chris Beck
      i. There is a workshop being planned for Preparing for A Honey Show @ the Honey Festival
   d. Location: for 2017
      Pursue FireKeepers

4. Job Descriptions for
   a. Steve: has provided a description to the Executive to look at dividing up the job description
   b. Executives need to work on their job description, so that they can be updated.
   c. Nominations Committee will be discussed

New Business

1. Correspondence
   • The Chatfield School is requesting a donation for an additional hive for their school program.
     i. Seven Ponds may be willing to donate a package
    Motion to purchase a 5 medium box hive from Dadant to supply them with an additional hive. Therese, 2\textsuperscript{nd} Greg, Carried
    • National Honey Board is seeking nominations.
      i. Chris Beck will follow up.

2. Annual Bee Research Grant.
   • Steve has suggested we increase the budget allowance to $4,500 from $3,000
    Motion to increase to $4,500: Therese, 2\textsuperscript{nd} Steve.
3. Give-away items:
   - Colouring books- 39 cents each- 2500 at a time.
     i. Crayons
   - Seed packets- 5000 (35 cents)- $1750
     i. custom printing, 4 colour front and back
     ii. to be pursued
   - We utilize these giveaways at
     i. project red
     ii. honey festival
     iii.
   - The Bee’s Knee
     i. There are about 400 available left from the conference
       • what are we going to do with them.
       • Suggested to use for school events or otherwise
     ii. What is the cost for Charlotte and the breakdown for volume
       • Sheldon will pursue with Charlotte regarding cost.
   - Promotion to clubs for giveaways.
     i. List of giveaways p
     ii. Availability to use registration and other stuff.

4. Don Lam
   - Bahamas Report.

5. Survey possibilities

6. Anne Marie
   - $15,000 for 2 grants.
   - Grant received
   - Johnathan Englesma
     i. Mobile app for pollen.

Motion to adjourn. Sheldon