Michigan Beekeepers' Association
April 1, 2017

Agenda:

Attendance:
By Video Conference: Meghan Milbrath, Rich Wieske, Mike Hanson, Koffi,

1. Call to Order 9:20, due to technical difficulties
2. Additions to Agenda
3. Approval of Agenda
Moved: Dale, 2nd Mike R.

4. Secretary's Report – Sheldon Schwitek
Moved: Mike R, 2nd Dale.

5. Treasurer’s Report – Theresa Wyatt
   1. Financial
      o Payment from ANR will take a couple of months. But registration is closer to last year.
      o Bill from Kellogg looks fine. Actually, came in less than last year
      o Classified ads have been transferred from PayPal. Authorize.net is the next step and will go
      o Michigan sales tax exempt has been reconciled with Kellogg
        ▪ We need a non-profit statement prior June 1994 from the Dept. of Treasury
   2. Membership
      • Transfer is slower than expected and not as clean as we had hope. It is still in progress.

6. Member Communications - Meghan Milbrath
   • Pollinator Protection. Needs to be stakeholder driven, so more input is need from beekeepers
     i. Can Terry look at it and MBA provide support.
     ii. MBA is being requested to play a roll in helping get the work out to the beekeeping Community.
   • Queen Rearing Group had a huge interest from beekeepers
     i. Will be pursued beginning with a letter from Meghan outlining the idea in ful.
     ii. MBA is to be the driving force for this as a resource for ALL beekeepers
   • EAS
     i. Communication to EAS from Ray was perceived as saying that we were interested in participating.
     ii. Ray. There has not been a director for a while. Added to new business.

   • See written report attached
   • India is planning to visit the Comfort Inn in Mt. Pleasant to see if that is appropriate.
8. MDARD – Mike Hansen
   - Reports of bees heading north from Florida. Mike and the beekeeper are getting the reports.
   - If you are distributing bees to outside of Michigan, you need to make sure they meet the requirements of the state they are sending them into.
   - Bee-Informed Colony Loss survey is up. There is also a federal survey which is different.
   - Bee-Informed also has disease reports up for 2015, including state by state reports.

9. MSU – Walter Pett, Zachary Huang
   - Michigan Pollinator Protection Program group is meeting and putting the final touches on the plan.
   - Walter visited Koppert the bumblebee production facility. He was impressed with their rearing of this other valuable pollinator.

10. Old Business
    A. Spring Conference – March 10th, 11th 2017
       Kellogg Center – MSU East Lansing, Michigan
       - Great conference.
       - There was some feedback regarding the registration. Since it was a new system and divided, we were aware of the issues as well.
       - It was requested that we identify the vendor area better.
         - Vendor sales were reported to be lower than usual at MBA
           - Anecdotally, they seemed to be better at SEMBA
       - A survey has been prepared to go out. We need the registration list from ANR need to contact ANR
       - Marina Marchese would like to do another full day class in the future
         - Pre-Conference day with Short Courses was discussed

11. Report on Non-profit Status
    - Clay Ottoni be made resident agent for official business with regard to reinstating our 501-c

Motion: Norm 2nd Clay, Moved.
   - According to our by-laws there is a need to include officers from clubs. Clay is identifying what information and we will proceed with the information he has for filing.

Motion: The board is reviewing the names of the directors for accuracy. We will strike “club representatives” from the official filing. We still welcome all clubs to participate in our proceedings.
Moved: Norm 2nd Clay, Moved.
   - IRS, will be the next

12. Summer Picnic ideas
    - SEMBA’s Summer picnic July 16.
    - Working on Dana Stalman as a speaker
      i. Don Schram.
    - Will report back to the board as they confirm the speakers

Motion: To combine summer picnic with SEMBA’s Plan
Moved: Sheldon, 2nd Rich, Moved.

13. Fall Conference
- Drift Watch. Field Watch director could be asked to
  i. Michigan already has a Drift Watch subscription, so it would be free for people to register and use Drift Watch
- Fall Conference Speaker
  i. Dewey Carron has been asked to speak is available Oct 14 and 21. Need
  ii. Larry Connor may be available. Sheldon to confirm his availability.
  iii. Lifetime Memberships needs to be tracked down.
  iv. Conference Committee: Ann, India,
      • Chris will confirm that the hotel is available and appropriate.

14. New Business
   I. Correspondence
      • Veterans of Therabees
   II. Presidents Report

Motion to reimburse Cindy and Clay be reimbursed for expenses incurred for the spring conference. Moved Dale 2nd Mike

III. EAS HAS- Discussion
      • Michigan is officially a member of the EAS.
        i. MBA has not had an “officially” appointed member for some time.
      • Motion: Sheldon and Norm, Carried.
      • HAS

IV. List of Standing Motions to be accumulated by the committee of Clay, Ann, Mike R.

V. Local Associations or Clubs:
      • Clay is suggesting clubs have a corporate registration with the State of Michigan. Along with a bank account to receive moneys from the MBA.
      • Need a current list of recognized clubs.
      • A suggestion is that we would have a recognized list, as well as a list of all clubs throughout the state.

VI. Website maintenance:
      • Ray would like $590 per year to maintain the website. He is requesting that the communication be clearer in order to make maintenance. Theresa will be communicating payments for ads.
      • Maps to Honey, Swarms and Cutouts, Clubs listing are to be updated as needed.

Motion: That Ray be recognized as the Webmaster for MBA with compensation of $590. Plus expenses. Moved, Mike R, 2nd Norm, Carried

11. Next Meeting – May 6th, June 3rd
    Walter will reserve room as necessary.

12. Adjournment
This is Norm Adams, acting in no official capacity other than a fellow board member.

District Reps

The communication problem was discussed and the decision was made to be sure to get our district reports in on time and complete. The report is quarterly so the next one is April, just around the corner. You should have received a form from Dr. Milbrath to send back to her. Please contact her if you do not have this form.

If this does not work out:
India has agreed to take over pulling together the District Rep reports. And will be actively looking for a fall meeting venue. Maybe a plan B would be to find a site in Holland or Grand Valley area.
Still looking for speaker, Jennifer Barry has health and family issues. Jennifer Tsusedaro is a possible depending on the date. Have heard her speak at HAS. Anyone else have a suggestion as to location or speaker

Beekeeper of the year. It is one of the duties of the Board to determine the Beekeeper of the year for both Upper and Lower Peninsula. In addition, we will be responsible to nominate one person from our district that deserves recognition. The plan now is to give them an engraved hive tool on a plaque of material to be determined.

Local clubs, to give local clubs an incentive to be active in the MBA the President is looking into the possibility of extending the insurance coverage the MBA has to local clubs. If you look at the constitution, located on the MBA web site) Article XVI the requirements for a club are listed. They are not at all stringent and most all clubs should be able to become involved. Joel Lantz is finalizing a form that we would like each club to fill out so we can have written record of their desire to be involved with MBA. It was done some time ago but the record is not available. We can now scan them in and the Secretary will place them in the computer purchased by MBA that will be passed to succeeding Secretaries so hopefully records will be available and in one place.

The Board is due to meet the first Saturday in April, please bring any concerns.