Michigan Beekeepers Association
June 27, 2018

Zoom remote meeting

Minutes:
Signed in: Norman Adams, Rodney Bear, Chris Beck, Kay Cease, Mike Hansen, Zachary Huang, Charlotte Hubbard, Meghan Milbrath, Scott Nichols, Sheldon Schwitek, Rumple ?, Rich Wieske, Teresa Wyatt, Dave Zurich

AGENDA

Call to order: 8:10 pm Sheldon Schwitek presiding

President’s Report:
Motion to accept agenda: Norman Adams, Seconded: Meghan Milbrath

Nominations for Vacant Positions
Secretary – Kay Cease
Motion to accept: Norman Adams, Seconded: Dave Zurich
Carried unanimously

District 5 Rep – John Davis
Motion to accept: Norman Adams, Seconded: Teresa Wyatt
Carried unanimously

Historian – Cecelia Infante
Motion to accept: Norman Adams, Seconded: Meghan Milbrath
Carried unanimously

Motion to approve minutes from April meeting: Norman Adams, Seconded: Dave Zurich

Treasurer’s Report:
GoDaddy and Constant Contact were renewed for $737.64
Request for $1000 for Summer Picnic
Insurance expense of $2142
Checking: $9372.47
CDs: $15,049.72
Total cash on hand: $24,422.19
Current members 564, increase of 104; average 3-5 new members/week
Website created for 2018 Summer Picnic
Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report: Norman Adams, Seconded: Dave Zurich
Carried unanimously

Member Communications:
Meghan Milbrath will send out information regarding the Summer Picnic and post to Facebook
Sent out email regarding volunteers and got a nice response. A dozen people are willing to serve on committees
Was contacted by MDARD. There is more funding available for protection of honeybees
Has gotten many phone calls recently regarding European Foulbrood, from both veterinarians and beekeepers. It seems to be everywhere right now.

District Rep. Reports
Charlotte Hubbard wants to get a quarterly issue out. Questioning role of the newsletter, because all current/timely information is on the website. Moving towards more of a magazine/building community role for newsletter

Norman Adams (District 6) regarding Beekeeper of the Year. Would like it completed by mid-September. He also held a productive district Internet meeting. Other districts are encouraged to do this also.

MDARD
Mike Hansen received email from Bob Walters regarding Bee Watch/Field Watch group. Enables pest control operators to know bee locations. They have apps for both beekeepers and pesticide operators.

FieldCheck for iOS: https://appstore.com/fieldcheckbyfieldwatch
BeeCheck for iOS: https://appstore.com/beecheck


Has received several complaints regarding bees from commercial beekeepers robbing hives of hobbyist beekeepers. Not a legal issue, but would be good to promote neighborly relationships. Possible solution would be legislation including some sort of buffer zone. Refer to Legislative Committee.

MSU
Zachary Huang submitted a proposal for funds of $6000 to cover the purchases of bees and hive parts to contribute to ongoing research.
Meghan Milbrath: The Pollinator Champions Online Course has launched. Bee Palooza was held this week, with about 500 attendees. There is now a MSU Beekeeping Channel on YouTube. Several informational videos are posted.

Conferences

Spring Conference committee met earlier this month. More information to follow.

Fall Conference: Rich Wieske reported on possible available speakers. No one is scheduled yet.

Summer Picnic

Would like to encourage registration on website to aid in planning. Plan to rent tents/chairs, and also provide meat, plates, cups, pop

Motion to approve $1000 expenditure: Dave Zurich, Seconded: Rich Wieske
Carried unanimously

Old Business

National Organizations
- American Beekeeping Federation: Not attended yet.
- EAS: Will check on status
- HAS: We have been asked to host this conference next year. Not much lead time. We hosted it 3 years ago, and other member states have not ever hosted it. We’ll decline the offer at this time.

New Business

Seven official committees are provided for under our constitution (posted on website).

Grant Review Committee is being created. Kay Cease agreed to lead it.

Promotional Opportunities

Run a booth at the Honey Festival? Norman Adams will introduce the idea at his next meeting. We have a pamphlet/promotional materials, and will check on supply levels and possible reprinting.

Blueberry Festival would like honey vendors, but is the same weekend as our Summer Picnic
Sheldon Schweitek will send a letter to all the district reps and club presidents to encourage participation in MBA meetings.

Legislative Agenda

Scott Nichols is interested in participating in the Legislative Committee and has lobbying experience. Chris Beck stated that the president of the Michigan Maple Syrup Producers Association contacted him regarding changing food licensing laws/fees. The Legislative Committee will look into this.

Motion to adjourn at 9:40 pm: Norman Adams