Michigan Beekeepers Association  
June 26, 2019  
Zoom Remote Meeting

Minutes:
**Signed in:** Norm Adams, Chris Beck, Jen Blackburn, Theresa Bristol-Miller, Ray Bowers, Mike Hansen, Joel Lantz, Keith Lazar, Kyle LeRoux, Meghan Milbraith, Sheldon Schwitek, Kale Tissue, Preston Zale

There is not a quorum at the beginning of this meeting.

**Call to order:** 8:00 pm Sheldon Schwitek presiding

**Treasurer’s Report:** Kale Tissue  
Chris asked if Kale had mailed the checks that were discussed at the last meeting. Sheldon believes she has mailed all of them except the one to MSU for Zach’s grant request. Sheldon reported that he had requested the full amount of that request from the Fremont Foundation. There are some cash flow issues, which Sheldon believes are related to lack of membership renewals since we have changed that process. We should send out reminders in the next newsletter.

**Member Communications:** Jen Blackburn  
She has posted a live link on the website regarding the Fall Meeting. It is also posted on the front page. She is caught up with club requests.

Sheldon asked her to get with Kale and Charlotte to remind people to renew their memberships.

**District Representative Reports:**  
*Kyle LeRoux:*  
They’ve had a lot of first timers attend their meetings. He has had 2 cut out calls resulting from their website. They attended the mite training class done by Meghan and Anna. They will present that information at their next meeting. Plenty of ice cream is ordered for the picnic.  
*Theresa Bristol-Miller:*  
She invited representatives from all her clubs to attend this meeting, and appreciates Preston joining us tonight. Seven Ponds had Dave Anthony speaking. They are having a summer picnic July 23. Mid Michigan had Jamie from Arnold Apiaries speak. They have no July meeting, but will have a picnic on July 27. Saginaw Valley will have two of their members share their mite treatment training. They are still having lots of rain in the thumb, and everything is a couple of weeks behind. The bees are not building up as well as usual this year.  
*Joel Lantz:*
They are way behind this year, running anywhere from 1-2 week behind on their bloom. He expects a lesser than normal honey flow. They had a bee social on Saturday, with a mead tasting, potluck, and went through some hives. Larry Connors will give a reading next month.

**Norm Adams:**
He attended Meghan’s mite education and has done some one-on-one teaching. He booked a room at the public library for a mite presentation, in addition to doing one at the local club. His area has had poor weather, but lots of honey from his bees nevertheless.

Kale Tissue joined the meeting, and reported that checks went out this week.

We now have a quorum, so Joel Lantz made a motion that we appoint Ray Browers as new District 4 rep. Second: Norm Adams

**MDARD: Mike Hansen**
They’ve started their national honey bee survey work. He was at Marquette for a sampling team exercise, and practiced doing emergency management related exercise. He enjoyed visiting Joel, and got one of our state veterinarians involved with beekeepers. He attended a blueberry pollination workshop, talking about pollination requiring both honeybees and bumble bees. The [Michigan Pollinator Initiative](https://www.michigan.gov/pollinators) website has lots of good information, as does [MSU Extension Pollinators & Pollination](https://extension.msu.edu/pollinators/pollination). Their newsletters provide timely information for beekeepers.

In August, he plans to meet with farm service agency representatives regarding ELAP (Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-raised Fish). He looked at bees in the UP in a field of industrial hemp. He recently read an article indicating that honeybees love hemp.

**MSU: Meghan Milbraith**
They have been doing lots of research on European Foulbrood. She is putting together guidelines for veterinarians. Beepalooza was this last weekend. They are still trying to work out their bee building situation. They are finishing up their blueberry project, and looking to see how the bees recover from lots of spraying. Over the next month, they have a multistate IPM clinic to encourage people to start monitoring now and focusing on treating the whole yard. She is glad that most of the state was represented at her mite class, and the feedback from attendees has been very positive.

**Conferences: Chris Beck**

*Fall Conference 2019:*
He met with the committee in Ann Arbor. They are concerned that they may oversell the venue, which can hold about 400. Kale reports that she can track registration on the website and cap it if needed. They have all vendor tables accounted for, but Chris is concerned that the website allows vendors to still register a table. Keith plans to do a walk through at the venue to make sure there is room for the appropriate number of tables.
Summer Picnic 2019:
Sheldon has visited the site to determine set up, and everything is in place.

Since we now have a quorum:
Battle Creek club submitted an application for a start-up grant of $500 Joel Lantz made a motion; Second: Norm Adams
Approve the agenda: Norm Adams; Second: Joel Lantz
May Minutes approved. Norm Adams; Second: Joel Lantz
Treasurer's Report: Joel Lantz; Second: Norm Adams

New Business:
Kudos to Chris Beck for being awarded the Grand Prize for “World’s Best Tasting Honey” in the 8th Annual International Black Jar Honey Competition.

Sheldon is proposing that we not schedule a July meeting and agree to meet again in August unless something comes up.

Motion to adjourn at 9:00p: Norm Adams