

NEMBA Business Meeting Notes for December 19, 2016

Motion to call Business Meeting to order @ 7:02pm.

Minutes of the last meeting were read. Motion made to accept the minutes as read. MSC

Treasurers Report:

We have a balance of \$2549.66 in our savings account.

We gave \$100.00 speaking donation to Sarah Rushford.

We donated \$250.00 as a sustaining pollinator to the Bee Lab at the U of M for a commemorative paver in the Club's name.

We gave \$275.00 to the IRS for filing \$501.00.

Motion was made to accept the Treasurers Report. MSC

H Collins and J Hanson were Greeters.

The D McGee and B Roth of the Education Committee would like it, if we brought new information a little bit before they needed to know. B Roth will be addressing different philosophies of Beekeeping. It will be an eclectic approach to the subject. They would like discussion and participation. We could even try a panel discussion format.

There was discussion about valuing the new beekeepers that come to us.

D McGee brought up the topic of mentorship and discussion followed.

J Tibbetts met with Courtney concerning the beekeeping seminar on February 25th, 2017. We will need 4 helpers in the morning for setup, 2 for registration from 8-10 am, and 4 for cleanup when the seminar is over. R Ober will start his Beginner Beekeeping class at 9 am.

Bring things for sale to the seminar.

Unfinished Business:

T Smith met with MP&L and MP&L is planning to plant pollinator friendly plants under their new solar energy array.

New Business:

More discussion about the Mentoring Program and there was concern expressed about Club and Mentor liability, some people volunteered to be mentors anyway. It seemed that we would be revisiting the issue at a later meeting.

Dues will be \$20.00 per family.

We discussed ordering new hats and, 9 people expressed interest in purchasing one.

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D Laumeyer has indicated that he would like to get together a committee to work on ordering bees. Brian Kingsinger's name came up. Please email J Tibbetts to be on the bee ordering committee.

The plan thus far is to have Cumen trucking haul our bees. They did it last year. There was a question raised wondering if they have load insurance. There was another question raised about bee prices this year, wondering if the price will be higher than last year. Ashland won't be getting bees with us this year. This year there will be a deposit on every package box sold. That deposit will be returned when the box is returned.

On another note; Widdes Feed is now a Mann Lake dealer. Great news for us who like to size up the stuff we are buying in person.

The Club is planning on ordering a new Club extractor. We will keep the old extractor too.

The general consensus is that the old extractor is heavy and cumbersome. Nevertheless we will keep the old extractor as we anticipate more demand for an extractor as the Club grows. Good idea.

There was a motion to purchase a new 3 frame extractor. MSC

T Bates, to his utter amazement won a \$25.00 gift certificate to Mann Lake.

D McGee talked about our need for a vet to administer antibiotics to our bees. He pointed us to beevets.com which is a service of Betterbee. Also mentioned was the Sept 20th, 2016 issue of Bee Culture Magazine. The article was named "Do I need a vet for my bees?"

R Ober showed us a winter sugar patty/brick video with a recipe for patties/bricks. It was a Charlie Beyersdorf video. I think they are quite entertaining as well as instructional.

Motion made to call it a night. MSC @ 7:58pm.