

Minutes of the February 4, 2009 Meeting of the Racine/Kenosha Beekeepers'
Association

The meeting was called to order by our President, David Blaim, at 7:15 p.m. David welcomed guests, recognized those who provided refreshments and thanked Peter for providing beverages.

The minutes and Treasurer's report were read and approved.

Tim reminded members of Lee Heine's upcoming beekeeping workshop and Tim also announced that he would be hosting a workshop of his own in Dane County. Tim then discussed the benefits of joining the Wisconsin Honey Producers' Association and encouraged our members to join the WHPA. Tim informed members that the WHPA's fall convention will be held in Eau Claire, and that we have lost our bid to host the 2010 convention.

The treats and swarm catch sign-up sheets were then distributed to members, as well as the annual informational survey.

Jim gave a report on the ABF's national convention and noted that many speakers at the convention expressed concern with the effects of chemicals that beekeepers introduce into their hives. A discussion was then held on possible sources for obtaining packages with Minnesota Hygenic queens.

Next, the annual election of officers took place. Patrick DeMoon, Maggie Friery and Tim Fulton were unanimously elected to the offices of President-Elect, Secretary and Program Chair, respectively.

Peter made a motion for the association to purchase a new coffee pot. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous consent.

Discussions then took place on the topics of hive mortality, new diseases and pests in Florida, the use of chemicals in hives, varroa mite treatment, chalkbrood and nosema.

Finally, Matt Luxem gave a show and tell on a screened board that he made to help a weak swarm survive the winter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.