

Minutes of the February 1, 2012 Meeting of the Racine/Kenosha Beekeeper's Association.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Randy Chase at 7:05pm. He welcomed guests and recognized those who provided refreshments.

Announcements

Randy Chase informed the Association of a guest in the audience (West) looking to place beehives on some property in the area.

Secretary passed around treat schedule and swarm catching signup sheets.

Pete Poli announced that he was looking for assistance with the Spring Into Gardening 2012 event on March 10th. Volunteers are requested to man the beekeeping booth. He passed around a copy of the handout for the event. Pete Poli also requested that members forward pictures of beekeeping operations for incorporation into a presentation at the event.

Scott Drabicki announced that there were boxes of twine available to take for smoker fuel.

Jim Belli announces that Lee Heine's beekeeping class is this weekend at the Brat Stop. Interested parties should call first to ensure that there is still room as the event has historically sold out. Jim Bellie reminded the Association about the August 4th picnic at their farm.

Tim Fulton announced the March 10th Wisconsin Honey Producers Regional Meeting.

Randy Chase announced a honey filtering setup available for sale – interested parties should see him directly.

The November 2011 minutes were read and approved.

The Treasurer's report was presented \$940.43 in the bank, \$20 in cash. There was discussion about yearly dues and a \$5 per family in membership dues. Report and membership fee was moved and approved.

Old Business

Pete Poli recommended books: "Lessons from an Accidental Beekeeper" and "Following the Bloom".

Facebook page has been updated with videos: "Varroa mites in Australia" and "CCD in the U.S." There are only 14 members on the Facebook page so feel free to sign up.

New Business

Randy Chase announced that as the first meeting of the new year today was the day for the nomination of officers. As a third year President Randy indicated he has run out of time in accordance with the bylaws.

For the position of Treasurer Randy indicated Lindsey Drought had served for 1 year, did an excellent job, and is eligible to serve for 2 more years in this position. A nomination was made for Lindsey, she accepted. Motion was approved.

For the position of Secretary Randy indicated Peter Staniec had served for 1.5 years, did an excellent job, and is eligible to serve for 2 more years in this position. A nomination was made for Peter, he did not turn down the nomination (albeit he was in Hawaii). Motion was approved.

For the position of President Randy indicated Tim Fulton, as President Elect, can move up to President or we can nominate another individual. Tim expressed concern about his schedule as he is also President of the WHP and requested another person take over as President. Tim indicated that the President's job is more about networking than beekeeping. Randy opened the floor for nominations. Pete Poli was nominated but did not accept the nomination. A nomination was made for Scott Drabicki as President and Tim Fulton as President Elect, they accepted. Motion was approved.

The members of the Association discussed the unusual winter and the effects on the bees.

Presentation

Randy Chase gave a presentation that was being prepared for the Master Gardeners about Midwest Pollinators. Topics included Orchard Bee, Hoverfly, Bumble Bees, Butterfly, Moth, Ants, Beetles, Wasps, and Honey Bee.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.