

Racine/Kenosha Beekeepers' Association

March 5, 2014 Meeting Minutes



Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by President Scott Drabicki at 7:05pm at the Racine location. He welcomed new members and asked if any of the new members needed a mentor.
- Members introduced themselves along with location of hives and their status
- 42 Attendees with 3 new members

Announcements

- 2014 \$5 dues due
- Wrap up Surveys
- Master Gardeners Spring into Gardening at Paddock Lake HS, March 8; Pete Poli and Gail Seefeldt will be presenting a Intro to Beekeeping workshop
- Snack sign up for 2014

Executive Report

- May 5 location of Racine – Marla to look into
- April speaker – Craig Petros, WI Apiary Inspector
- Reminder- Club is selling book “First Lessons in Beekeeping” from Dadant to the club for \$5 and the club would subsidize \$0.97 per book
- The February minutes were reviewed and approved. They will be stored on the website for reference and the google groups page for review.
- Treasurer’s report has \$873.87 in savings; in spring to pay out Eagle Scout \$150 for 2nd half of Hawthorne Hollow Beehive project
- Bristol location is booked for May and November; recommendation to have meeting at Ives Grove in Sturtevant or Drought School; add July Meeting in addition to bee yard visit

Old Business

- Club extractor- Seth Tost and new extractor is with Don Laferty
- Google Group site is active; please sign up

New Business

- Lee Heine is full for reserved packages; ordered 15,000

- This month in Beekeeping
 - Checking on bees in winter
 - Sugar feed/font
 - Do not break up hive clusters
 - Diagnosis on dead hive; starved or disease
 - Brood Rearing is Beginning; may supply pollen patties to promote rearing
 - Equipment Prep
 - Order Bees for 2014
- Group Discussion
 - Driftwatch, register for spraying alerts
 - Microscope- good way to observe nosema
 - Splits- Randy Chase information
- Speaker – Matt LaForge from Dadant Bee Supply in Watertown, WI
 - 2 recommended products – Cloakboard and Nucs
 - Available packages- Ryan Stern (nucs) in Sullivan, WI (262) 893-0094 and Honeybee ware in Hortonville, Wayne Gerds (package/nucs) (920) 779-3019
- Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54pm.

Submitted by: Gail Seefeldt