

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes  
Board meeting  
Stedman's Bee Supply, Silverdale WA  
February 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Present: George Purkett, Larry & Gerry Carbaugh, Bob & Janet Finley, Brenda Smith, Debra Langley-Boyle, and Charles Schaefer. Others joined throughout the meeting.

The minutes of the January 17, 2016 meeting, which had been digitally distributed, were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- WSBA funds stand at \$17,202.86. The Beginner Beekeeper Course has a signup of 28 attendees to date. 2017 WSBA membership dues received from nine members bringing the total 2017 members-in-good-standing to 43.
- One Michael Palmer seminar DVD set was purchased at \$20.
- Discussion of responsibility for WSBA's apiary registration (by April 1) and it was determined that the Treasurer will submit paperwork and fee.
- Membership to WASBA has yet to be renewed.

APIARY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jean Ball was not in attendance, but need for volunteers to prepare apiary for the upcoming season was discussed. George is going to investigate a digital scheduling system for organizing the time slots for the hands-on classes and scheduling volunteers for apiary workdays. Brenda Smith reported only one hive still viable in the apiary, and she fed the bees and adjusted the entrance reducer. Her examination of the other hives indicated that one hive starved through lack of resources, and yellow jacket wasps ravaged two hives. Techniques were discussed for early trapping of yellow jacket queens.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Brenda and George will be attending a statewide seminar for the training and mentoring of prison beekeepers at the Purdy Women's' Correctional Center on March 3.
- There has been a request from a local author compiling information for a book about an autistic beekeeper from the 1930s.
- George is scheduled to conduct a lecture on beekeeping at the Port Orchard Library on March 14.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

- Larry has submitted advertising of the annual apprentice beekeeping course event to the local access television station, posting to Craigslist, the Club's Yahoo page, the West Sound Beekeeper's Facebook page, and flyers have been posted throughout the Kitsap Peninsula as well as Bainbridge Island. Janet has posted course information to the Facebook pages of North Kitsap Buy-Sell-Trade, Kitsap Buy-Sell-Trade, and Kitsap Farm and Garden. The response has been strong.
- Larry has also been successful in negotiating with Silverdale United Methodist Church the room rental for the six-week program. Last year the Club paid \$900 total, this year we have contracted the same venue for \$600.

#### SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- The newsletter for February was distributed digitally on February 1.
- An email reminder was sent to members in the week prior to the February 21 meeting.
- Two flyers were posted on side and back doors at the Silverdale United Methodist Church with information regarding the Beginner Beekeeper Course and directing any attendees who were mistakenly told the course began February 21 of the correct dates and location of the WSBA club meeting.

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- Brenda Smith discussed how she and Don Lorimore spoke to children and parents at an evening STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) event in Olalla.
- George Purkett spoke on differing techniques for Varroa Mite control, but determined that Apistan Strips would be the easiest for new members.
- Discussion on speakers for Beginner Beekeeping Course.
- Discussion on room set up for course, sound system needs, materials to be printed, volunteers for registration tables, and other details.
- Website was updated.
- Volunteer Coordinator needed.
- The ordering of Club T-shirts was discussed amid popular support.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M. as members filed into the room for the general membership meeting.

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WSBA General Membership Meeting  
February 21, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. The room was filled to capacity.

Brenda Smith distributed nametags; new attendees provided contact information and were furnished with a nametag. Those renewing their membership submitted checks to the Treasurer.

Sophia Gwynne generously and graciously provided snacks for the meeting.

President George Purkett greeted newcomers. He announced and described the upcoming Beginner Beekeeper Course and invited those present to attend.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS:

February 28: First meeting of six-week Beginner Beekeeper Course.

March 18: An announcement was made of a program being promoted by Portland Urban Beekeepers to bring Michael Thiele, owner of Gaia Bees, for a seminar on March 18.

March 21: An announcement was made that the March 21 club meeting will be held at the Silverdale United Methodist Church in conjunction with the Beginner Beekeeper Course.

March 29: Discussion of Paul Stamets event at Seattle's Moore Theatre concerning his books and theories on mushroom fungi and honeybees.

#### OPEN DISCUSSION:

Open discussion on hive status, equipment differences, pest control.

An announcement was made that 32 Carniolan Queens have been ordered from Michael Palmer from Vermont. Discussion on the differences between Italian and Carniolan bees

#### PRESENTATION:

"Queen Rearing in Your Front Yard - No Experience Needed." By George Purkett with slides, commentary, and discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03.

Minutes submitted by Janet Finley