

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes
Board meeting
Stedman's Bee Supply, Silverdale WA
July 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 P.M.

Quorum Present: Board Members George Purkett, Larry & Gerry Carbaugh, Bob & Janet Finley, Frank Wilson, and Brenda Smith. A large number of club members were also present.

The minutes from the June meeting were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Finley

- The WSBA bank balance stands at \$20,445.74, as of June 30, including available funds in checking of \$12,043.70, the savings account of \$3,891.57, and the Money Market reserve fund of \$4,510.47.
- The Treasurer expressed concern that course books for the 2018 Apprentice Beekeeping Course, increased expenses to care for the large number of hives in the Apiary, and anticipated expenses with the club's upcoming annual picnic, Christmas party, and further educational events will deplete available funds. Lines items for office supplies and meeting supplies are already over budget for the year.
- The Treasurer reminded the Board that according to the WSBA Bylaws the accounts are required to be audited prior to the October Annual Meeting. Frank Wilson and George Purkett agreed to audit the books.
- Club membership stands at 170 members in good standing.

APIARY MANAGER'S REPORT: Brenda Smith

- The Apiary has 27 honeybee colonies thanks in part to donated hives from Jerry Hominda, a club member and commercial beekeeper who is moving to Chile. An additional 10 hives may also be added from his apiary. The donated hives feature 10-frame deep equipment.
- Discussion on what number of hives the WSBA Apiary actually needs for educational demonstrations, the cost of maintaining so many colonies, and the potential of selling to club members nucs made up of four frames of brood and a queen from the surplus.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: George Purkett

- George gave a thank you to all in attendance for such active participation this year. Over 330 hours of volunteer labor in the Apiary has been recorded to date.

- Discussion of the successful distribution of the 32 Michael Palmer Vermont queens and nucs last month. Suggestion was made that next year we offer four frames of brood in the nucs rather than five.
- George is continuing to teach a beginning beekeeper course at the Corrections Center for Women in Gig Harbor. Two hives with bees have been donated by Stedman's Bee Supplies to populate their apiary.
- George Purkett donated a Warre hive to the WSBA Apiary. He says that it needs to be repainted as the original glossy paint has faded.
- With the Annual Meeting fast approaching, George urged club members to consider running for elected office. George would like to hand off the office of President to another volunteer.
- George has requested the Board meet to develop a calendar of events for 2018, and suggested the need for a Queen Rearing class. Many of the Board's agenda items are not being addressed in the 45 minutes allotted before the general meetings.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Larry Carbaugh

- Because of ongoing health issues, Larry reported he will not be interested in holding elected office in the WSBA next fiscal year.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Janet Finley

- The July newsletter was digitally distributed on July 1, 2017 to 289 subscribers.
- A meeting reminder email was sent on June 12 to all members.

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR'S REPORT: Sophi Gwynne

- Aaron Gurtler presented two proposals to erect an already-purchased gazebo next to the WSBA Apiary. One plan involves poured concrete pads and the other involves less expensive paver tiles. Safety and permanence were factors in the more expensive design.
- After much discussion on available funds and the appropriateness of the project, a motion was put forth by Larry Carbaugh and seconded by Frank Wilson that the Board approve a \$175 spending limit for this one-time project expense to be taken from WSBA savings for the erection of the gazebo on Stedman's property, dependent on approval from the Stedman family, Kitsap County, and whether the proposed building site is suitable. Motion carried with abstention from Treasurer Bob Finley.
- Shaari Unger presented a request that the WSBA fund the building of two Top-Bar hives using Golden Mean plans favored by Ted Gill. The cost of the project would be \$350 with volunteer woodworking being done by Dana Schack. After much discussion on available funds and the appropriateness of the project, the request was tabled with a plan to appeal to WSBA members for donation of needed materials to complete the two hives.

AGENDA ITEMS/GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- TOPIC 1: Hands on Class
 - George Purkett will instruct two hands on classes in the WESBA Apiary on August 5, 2017 with limited class sizes. The times are at 9:00 and 11:00 with a class cost of \$20. Topics are to include mite sampling, mite treatments, fall prep, and honey extraction. Secretary Janet Finley will send out an email with information on the classes to all members.
- TOPIC 2: Executive Meeting
 - A meeting of the Board for the purposes of developing a budget for 2018, planning educational events, and assessing priorities for the next fiscal year will take place on Tuesday, July 25 at 6:00 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M. Next month's meeting will take place at the WSBA annual picnic on August 19, 2017.

WSBA General Membership Meeting July 18, 2017

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

Brenda Smith distributed nametags; requested signing in, and new attendees were provided a nametag.

President George Purkett greeted newcomers and announced that while there is no guest speaker, rather he will be presenting a lecture on a timely topic.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The Hands On Class was announced for August 5.
- With the large number of hives in the Apiary, additional volunteers are needed to support the health of the bees. Members were urged to participate.
- Joe Gwynne requested that an Apiary plan be devised whereby each of the three volunteer groups would be assigned specific hives to maintain. Concern was voiced that some hives may be over handled while others may be neglected. A color coded system was proposed and discussed.
- Announcement that the gazebo is to be erected next to the Apiary.
- Discussion of the WSBA website. Sophi Gwynne will research and develop a more user-friendly platform for management of information on the site.
- WSBA picnic August 19 from 12-4 PM at the home of Janet and Bob Finley located at 3268 Old Sawmill Place NW, Bremerton, WA 98312.

OPEN DISCUSSION: Members shared various stories of difficulties in introducing the Palmer queens to their hives. Many members have hives suddenly without queens and are looking for replacements. Members report “angry” bees.

PRESENTATION: “Summer and Fall Hive Management” by George Purkett.

Minutes submitted by Janet Finley