

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes
Board Meeting
World of Beer Restaurant, Silverdale WA 98383
September 16, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

Quorum Present: President Sophi Gwynne, Vice President Dana Schack, Treasurer Bob Finley, Secretary Janet Finley; Trustees Joe Gwynne and Darlene Stiffey; Apiary Manager George Purkett; Guests Jeff Hall and Dave Leger.

The minutes from the July 15, 2019 Board meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Sophi Gwynne

- Sophi announced that due to increased professional responsibilities she will not seek reelection for 2020.
- Sandy Fanara has volunteered to serve as Education Committee Chair.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dana Schack

- No report

SECRETARY REPORT: Janet Finley

- The WSBA picnic in August served 50 WSBA members and their families (a 34% increase over 2019 attendance) and the expenses fell below budget.
- The Apprentice Beekeeper Course successfully provided training to 13 students over two Saturdays in September at the Jackson Scout Hall. Two students did not have certification at the Beginning Beekeeper level, so Janet has worked out a path forward so that they can take the accelerated Beginning Beekeeper Course. Both students have 3+ years of beekeeping experience.
- The September 28 "Introduction to Beekeeping" class registrations have exceeded the capacity of Stedman's Bee Supplies salesroom, and will be held at Jackson Scout Hall. Janet has notified all registrants by email and telephone of the change. A sign will be posted at Stedman's to direct participants who miss the notification.
- Janet requested funds from the 2019 Education line item to mail Beginning and Apprentice certificates to the students who have not retrieved theirs at meetings or events. That request was denied, and the suggestion was made to destroy unclaimed certificates from past years.
- The City of Port Orchard contacted WSBA Secretary Janet Finley concerning future restrictions and ordinances for beekeeping within their area. Janet provided WA State and Kitsap County regulations, as well as for counties surrounding Kitsap, and offered to assist in conflict resolution in case that was at issue. No response from City of Port Orchard.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Finley

- Total of WSBA funds at the end of August stands at \$16,301.81, although checks in the total of \$711.27 and deposits of \$1,063.40 are still outstanding.
- Bob presented the proposed budget for 2020 and asked for review and discussion at the next Board meeting. He spoke on how little input he has received from the Apiary Team about projected 2020 income and expenses, and how the revenue from the sales of queens and nucs during 2019 failed to meet projected goals.
- The Audit Committee, consisting of John Sasser and Jim Novotney, met with Bob Finley in September to examine the WSBA books. No official report has been presented to the Board.

APIARY REPORT: George Purkett

- There are currently 24 active hives in the Apiary, and 20 hives expected to go into the winter.
- Varroa mite treatments have been ongoing over the season.
- Discussion of the 2020 Apiary Team to be overseen by George, but managed by Dave Leger, Jeff Hall, and Gordon Cromwell. Lauren Funk has offered to keep records.
- Discussion on this year's new volunteer recruitment policy, which resulted in a lack of volunteers supporting the Apiary's maintenance.
- Discussion on comparisons between attendance and participation with this year's method of Apiary topic teaching as opposed to last year's scheduled tutorials. More planning and advertising of activities are a goal.
- Discussion on feedback on the 2019 Mentor Program, which many new beekeepers reportedly felt didn't meet their needs. Managing expectations and having written guidelines was suggested.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Bylaws Committee:
 - Janet presented the proposed changes to the WSBA Bylaws as drafted by the Bylaw Committee consisting of Al Jarvis, Marie Vila, and Michael Bean. Specific suggestions on changes were presented to the Board during the January 2019 Board meeting, and the Bylaw Committee addressed each point at meetings over the summer.
 - A dynamic exchange was held on the addition of the words "or on behalf of" [the Association] under **Article IV – Conduct of Business**. A member of the Apiary Team, Dave Leger, became frustrated with the conversation and felt that he was "being jerked around" so he tendered his resignation as the Apiary Assistant, effective immediately, and left the meeting. This addition was to confirm that the WSBA is an all-volunteer organization, and members cannot personally financially gain from goods or services transacted while acting on behalf of the Association, which Mr. Leger was apparently doing. Private transactions or agreements

negotiated apart from Association business are separate issues. It was the understanding of the Bylaw Committee that Association liability insurance might not protect the WSBA if commercial enterprises were conducted. Sophi will contact our insurance agent to inquire about coverage in this instance.

- The Board rejected the proposed changes to the Bylaws and will table further discussions on the topic until 2020. Janet will inform the Bylaws Committee of the Board decision.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Apiary Team has requested funds for the purchase and installation of another shed (lockable) in the Apiary, one that can hold equipment and pallets of bulk-purchased sugar. Treasurer Bob Finley asked for direction on where the funds were to be found for this purchase when the Apiary didn't produce the income expected.
- Discussion on the fate of the WSBA Library. No member holds the position of Librarian, materials are being removed without documentation, and the reduced hours of Stedman's Bee Supplies limits access. The suggestion to donate the materials to the Silverdale Library was discussed with the fear that they would not be placed in circulation. Selling or auctioning off the books and videos was also discussed.

MOTION: To box up the contents of the WSBA Library to be stored off site. Motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. George Purkett is not in favor of this action.

- Discussion on reducing the number of Board meetings in 2020 to occur quarterly. The current WSBA Bylaws only require two (2) Board meetings per year. The general consensus is that most Board business can be handled through electronic communications.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 PM. The Board will meet again on Monday, October 14, 2019, at 6:00 PM at World of Beer, the day prior to the WSBA Annual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Finley, WSBA Secretary