

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes  
Board Meeting  
Yacht Club Broiler Restaurant, Silverdale WA 98383  
March 18, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

Quorum Present: President Sophi Gwynne, Treasurer Bob Finley, Secretary Janet Finley; and Trustees Joe Gwynne, Darlene Stiffey, and Gordon Cromwell. Also present was Apiary Manager, George Purkett.

Because George Purkett had a conflicting commitment, we opted to have him present his report and requests at the beginning of the agenda.

**APIARY REPORT:** George Purkett

- Currently 9 hives are alive in the WSBA Apiary, two just barely. Therefore, additional resources will be required to support the number of colonies available across the range of various hive designs for training purposes.
- The need to create Queens for our Apiary prompted George to propose a Queen Rearing program by which the Apiary's needs could be met with the potential that surplus Queens could be sold individually or in nucs to recoup expenditures. Because the funding of this programs is not in the 2019 budget, a motion must be approved for the funding.

**MOTION:** To support the Queen Rearing Program during 2019 with funds not to exceed \$1500. The motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

- George designed two documents: one to outline the path to becoming a Journeyman Beekeeper with certification at the WASBA level, and another outline of what skills are needed to be obtained to meet the certification. The educational offerings over the season to interested students will attempt to align with acquiring these skills and will be organized by George.
- George, through Janet, sent out a call to past and current members seeking to learn who are interested to pursuing Journeyman certification. To date 28 beekeepers have asked to be guided on the path to achieving their Journeyman education.
- George plans to purchase four packages of bees from Stedman's in April and treat systematically and extensively for varroa mites.

The minutes from the February 18, 2019 Board meeting were accepted.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Sophi Gwynne

- A question of whether the payment for the liability insurance policy premium, sent to our agent, has been paid and coverage is in place. We have been assured, despite recent mail to the contrary, that is the case.

- HB-1133-2019-20 “Limiting Liability for Registered Apiarists” is continuing in its process through the Washington State Legislature. We are being kept abreast of the progress by the WASBA.

VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT: Dana Schack

- Dana Schack and Gordon Cromwell are working on acquiring interesting topics and speakers for our monthly membership meetings. Their goal is for speakers and topics to complement or enhance the Journeyman training.

SECRETARY REPORT: Janet Finley

- The storage cabinet has been installed and a key to the lock is stored in a combination lockbox with our Librarian, Suzanne Richardson, having the code.
- 90 Students are currently enrolled in the Beginning Beekeeper Course, with the new study materials. Some feedback is being gathered for the WASBA on testing errors, problem information, and area-specific descriptions.

TREASURER’S REPORT: Bob Finley

- Total of WSBA funds at the end of January stands at \$20,856.69, although checks in the amount of \$ 997.00 and deposits of \$370.00 are still outstanding.
- The Beginning Beekeeper Course has achieved 101% of projected enrollment.
- Only 40 membership renewals out of 173 have been received for 2019. Discussion on retention.
- A \$200 refundable security deposit for the Jackson Scout Hall year’s rental over charges the line item, but is expected to be returned to us.

OLD BUSINESS:

- A collection was taken at the February membership meeting to support a fledgling beekeeper school group in Oaxaca, Mexico, at the behest of Michael Palmer of French Hill Apiaries. Sophi had difficulty applying the collected funds to the GoFundMe site, so she is considering mailing a check directly to Michael Palmer for him to forward.
- Joe Gwynne has determined that a new sound system is needed for future speaking presentation so that the very heavy and cumbersome borrowed system, of which we have thankfully used in the past, can be replaced with a new, lighter unit. Funds for this new system have already been approved by the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Joe wants to provide name tags for our members to wear to aid in creating a more cohesive gathering at our membership meetings. Discussion on styles of nametags and which line item will be used to fund the project.

- A group of beekeepers located in Pierce, Mason, and Kitsap Counties have formed a separate beekeeping club on the Key Peninsula. Officers are being elected and bylaws adopted by them for this organization. A letter from Key Peninsula Beekeepers requesting a \$200 donation was received by the WSBA. Discussion of whether this request met our Association's bylaws, 2019 budget goals, or mission statement prompted the Board to decline the request. Sophi will communicate with the Key Peninsula Beekeepers of this unanimous decision.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 PM. The next meeting of the Board will be April 15, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Finley, WSBA Secretary