

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes
Board Meeting
Family Pancake House, Port Orchard, WA
January 21, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM.

Quorum Present: President Sophi Gwynne, Treasurer Bob Finley, Secretary Janet Finley; and Trustees Joe Gwynne, Darlene Stiffey, and Gordon Cromwell. Representing the Apiary Committee was George Purkett and David Leger.

The minutes from the December 17, 2018 Board Meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Sophi Gwynne

- Gordon Cromwell reported on the completion of his project to apply a load of gravel to the entrance of the Stedman driveway, which sees traffic from our members. He also enhanced the visibility of the entrance fence posts with white paint and reflectors. Beneath the gravel Gordon ran a length of 2" PVC pipe as a conduit for future electrical wires to illuminate the driveway entrance someday, with the approval of Mrs. Stedman.
- Vice President Dana Schack and Trustee Gordon Cromwell have been tapped to comprise a committee to plan guest speakers, events, and presentations.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dana Schack

- No report.

APIARY MANAGER'S REPORT: George Purkett, Apiary Manager

- Discussion of scheduling volunteer groups needed to manage the Apiary.
- Discussion on weekly instructional presentations to be provided prior to Saturday maintenance sessions to encourage student participation.
- Discussion on number of hives necessary to provide instruction.
- Discussion of George's Queen Rearing proposal with the intent to grow approximately 72 queens for sale and use in the Apiary accessing Apiary equipment, colonies, resources, and additional funding not in the 2019 budget. The stated goal is to improve Varroa mite resistant genetics to strengthen the Apiary stock.

SECRETARY REPORT: Janet Finley

- 35 flyers were distributed for the Beginning Beekeeper Course, and announcements were posted on our website, Facebook page, and social media. The Kitsap Sun was also notified for their calendar section.
- Registrations through the website and by mail total 43 to date.
- A lockable stand up storage cabinet has been ordered through Hayneedle, and Janet will coordinate with Suzanne Richardson at Stedman's for placement location.

- We have successfully sold the first batch of 2019 WSBA calendars.
- WSBA Librarian Sherry Whybark has stepped down from her position and Suzanne Richardson has volunteered to serve in that capacity as the books, videos, and equipment are usually checked out through her anyway. We will award her an honorary one-year membership in the WSBA.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Finley

- Total of WSBA funds at the end of December stands at \$16,904.85 spread between savings, checking, and Marketfund accounts, although checks in the amount of \$ 439.17 and deposits of \$1,040.00 are still outstanding.
- Serious discussion of the Washington State's definition of a non-profit organization and whether ongoing sales of queens, nuc colonies, merchandise, and equipment pushes our group closer to being a business rather than a non-profit. Occasional fundraising is allowed, but commercial activities can jeopardize our non-profit status.
- Discussion of the need for a method to accept credit and debit cards for payment of fundraising merchandise, classes, and membership renewals. The Washington State Beekeepers Association has begun a similar program using "Square", which assesses a 2.75% transaction fee. It was determined that by adding a convenience charge of 5% to our card transactions, we can provide the service to our members while covering our costs.

MOTION: CREDIT CARDS

To authorize the WSBA Treasurer to institute the acceptance of payments by credit cards by charging a 5 percent service charge per transaction for the service.

Motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. Bob Finley will apply for the Square device.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Apiary and Board insurance: Sophi Gwynne presented the final package of insurance information to our Board. After all review and discussion, it was decided to fund this coverage package and hope that the WA State Beekeepers Association will make available an umbrella plan to beekeeping groups across the state in the near future.

MOTION: INSURANCE

Motion to approve the insurance coverage package to protect our Apiary and Board members from liability for one year.

Motion moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. Sophi will sign and submit the package with payment.

- Discussion on the topic of purchasing sound equipment to support the presentations at the Beginning Beekeeper Course. Joe Gwynne

presented options, gave recommendations, and discussed sound needs. He believes with some new cables and a headset, we can amend the borrowed system for about \$150. We will determine if an all new system needs to be purchased based on the first few sessions of the Beginning Beekeeper Course.

MOTION: SOUND EQUIPMENT

Motion to purchase a headset and cable to modify borrowed sound system; and if the resulting sound quality proves inadequate, Joe is authorized to purchase the Yamaha sound system previously discussed at a cost not to exceed \$1500.

Motion moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.

- Discussion on the idea of an Accelerated Beginning Beekeeper Course made available, through sponsorship, to experienced beekeepers, who have been WSBA members for at least one year. This is a one-time offer. Three names were put forward: Gordon Cromwell, John Sasser, and Jeff Hall. Each member has been active in volunteering, attendance, and shows knowledge. The price for the Accelerated Course would be \$30. Once they have registered, Janet will transmit digitally 12 chapters of PowerPoint slides and notes, provide a text manual, and process their test packets for certification through the WASBA.
- Gordon Cromwell proposed amending the driveway at the mouth of the Stedman's Bee Supplies driveway with the addition of approximately one yard of gravel. He is willing to deliver and spread the material.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Discussion of the need for language in our Bylaws to reflect how funds are dispersed if both Treasurer and recipient are family members.

MOTION: ADDITION OF SECTION 6 TO ARTICLE IX (FINANCES)

"If a conflict of interest, inferred or actual, arises in the reimbursement of spent funds, approval from a non-associated WSBA officer will be sought via email. The approving email will be printed and attached to appropriate receipts."

The motion was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved. It will be presented to our general membership prior to our next regular meeting, Feb. 19, 2019, where it will be voted upon for their approval.

- Several additional changes to the Bylaws were put forth and discussed. Some met with general agreement, some met with strong opposition. It was decided that a Bylaws Committee would be convened later in the year to address these suggestions before the Annual Meeting in October.

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 PM. The next meeting of the Board will be February 18, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Finley, WSBA Secretary