

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes  
Board Meeting  
World of Beer Restaurant, Silverdale WA 98383  
October 14, 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, Darlene Stiffey, Gordon Cromwell; Sandy Fanara, Education Chair, and Guest Jacob Hall.

The minutes from the September 16, 2019 Board meeting were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Sophi Gwynne

- Because of the controversy at the September meeting concerning David Leger, who while representing the WSBA, accepted money from those seeking beekeeping mentoring, Sophi reached out for clarification to an attorney who specializes in insurance law. This attorney stated that as West Sound Beekeepers Association is registered as a non-profit, any member accepting money for service, thereby is creating a job, and by definition becomes an independent contractor. This activity is not covered by the WSBA's liability insurance, and any insurance claims most likely would be denied.
- Discussion on whether WSBA is a 501c3 non-profit entity, which is a federal designation of a non-profit. Search of documentation reveals that WBSA is legally a Washington State non-profit, not federal. The bylaws will be corrected to reflect this fact.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Dana Schack

- No report, but he is healing nicely from recent surgery.

SECRETARY REPORT: Janet Finley

- The Apprentice Beekeeper Course submitted test scores for 13 students to the WA State Beekeepers Association, and the certificates have been received. They will be distributed at the October Annual meeting.
- The September 28 "Introduction to Beekeeping" class was successful at providing an overview of beekeeping to approximately 45 attendees, many of whom have registered for the Beginning (Hobbyist) Beekeeping Course in March, 2020.
- To date 17 students have registered for the Beginning Beekeeping Course on the westsoundbees.org website.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Finley

- A monthly charge of \$5 was levied against the WSBA Money Market account, and Bob Finley challenged the fee with the Kitsap Bank branch manager. Apparently, at some point years ago a request was made to

have photocopies of checks submitted to our Treasurer. While the photocopies never were sent, the charge, however, was applied. The branch manager has agreed to waive this fee in the future.

- WSBA total assets at the end of September stand at \$16,71.63, although checks in the total of \$385 are still outstanding.
- It is Bob's intention to transfer \$2,000 from checking to be split equally between the saving and Money Market accounts from budgeted funds not expended during 2019.
- Funding for a \$1200 lockable shed in the Apiary has been requested by the Apiary Team, but the Apiary Manager has not submitted a request for this expense. Discussion on the permanence of our WSBA Apiary location due to reduced hours and changes within the Stedman's Bee Supply business. Question of funding of this shed has been tabled.
- The Apiary Team has also discussed the purchase of a 2-frame honey extractor for small uses. The cost is approximately \$175, and Bob reminded the Apiary Team that this may be purchased using the Apiary line item if the Apiary Manager authorizes the expenditure.

#### APIARY REPORT: Gordon Cromwell

- Discussion on problems in communication between the Apiary Team, the Apiary Manager, and among volunteers and mentors. Lauren Funk has agreed to serve as Volunteer Coordinator and Mentoring Coordinator, as spokesperson for the Apiary Team in group postings on Facebook, and to send out announcements and updates through Mailchimp. Lauren has also volunteered to serve as the Newsletter Editor, making her effectively the Communications Director, spanning multiple means of telecommunications.
- The bees in the Apiary are still flying late into the month as the weather has been nice so far. Pollen is still being brought into the hives.
- Varroa mites: treatments continue.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Discussion on educational topics to promote and present in 2020. Janet has agreed to send flyers, documents, and schedules of past events.
- Discussion on path to Journeyman certification as presented by Sandy Fanara. Her opinion is that the group's goals are not benefited by meeting monthly because of the nature of the instruction. It was felt that separating the Journeyman meeting from the general meeting would be advantageous. Discussion on course fee for manual, instruction, and certification. \$100 per student was suggested.
- Sandy is also working with the Women's Correctional facility in Gig Harbor to train new inmate beekeepers. A meeting is planned at a future date.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Slate of Nominated Officers and Trustee for 2020:**
  - Janet reported that no one was nominated for the position of President with Sophi not running for 2020. After much discussion and encouragement, Sandy Fanara agreed to be nominated as President, but only if she relinquishes the role of Education Chair. Janet Finley has agreed to take on that position.
  - The slate to present to WSBA members at the Annual Meeting are
    - President: Sandy Fanara
    - Vice President: Dana Schack
    - Treasurer: John Sasser and Jacob Hall, nominees
    - Secretary: Steven Hickman
    - Trustee: Gordon Cromwell

**MOTION: To accept and bring forth this slate of Board officers and one trustee to the WSBA members for 2020 election at the 2019 Annual Meeting. (M/S/V approved unanimously)**

- **The 2020 WSBA Operating Budget:**
  - Treasurer Bob Finley gave an overview of planning for the 2020 budget with little input or response from various committees. Several of the line items had funds unspent, and many of the revenue line items failed to meet goals; some by a great amount.
  - Discussion on renaming some line items, reducing or removing funds, and what expected income from Apiary and Education activities are reasonable.
  - Bob recommends a 2020 WSBA Operating Budget with projected income of \$13,225 and Expenses of \$12,995.

**MOTION: To accept the 2020 WSBA Operating Budget as outlined by the Treasurer and to present the Budget to the WSBA members at the 2019 Annual Meeting. (M/S/V approved unanimously)**

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM. The Board will meet again on Monday, November 18, 2019, at 6:00 PM at World of Beer.

-----  
**ANNUAL MEETING**  
**October 17, 2019, 7 PM**  
Jackson Scout Hall, Silverdale WA

President Sophi Gwynne opened the meeting at 7 PM and presented an overview of the evening's agenda, mainly voting on the slate of 2020 Board positions and the WSBA operating budget. She read aloud the list of nominees.

**MOTION: To accept this slate of 2020 election Board officers and one trustee for a vote. (M/S/V approved unanimously)**

- Secretary Janet Finley gave members in good standing a ballot with instructions to vote on one candidate in each category. Trustees Joe Gwynne and Darlene Stiffey acted as ballot counters.
- Trustees Joe Gwynne and Darlene Stiffey acted as ballot counters.
- Results of the vote: 26 ballots counted; one ballot disqualified

**VOTE RESULTS:** The 2020 Board will consist of President Sandy Fanara, Vice President Dana Schack, Treasurer John Sasser, Secretary Steven Hickman, Trustees Joe Gwynne, Darlene Stiffey, and Gordon Cromwell, and Past President Sophi Gwynne.

Treasurer Bob Finley presented a slide show documentation detailing each line item of the 2019 budget, explained overruns and unused funds, and then presented the proposed 2020 budget as approved by the Board at the October 16, 2019 meeting.

**MOTION: To accept the proposed 2020 WSBA Operating Budget as outlined by the Treasurer and approved by the Board.  
(M/S/V approved unanimously)**

Recent Apprentice Beekeeper students were presented with their WASBA certificates and patches to applause.

Gordon Cromwell gave a hands-on demonstration on the mixing of products and the techniques recommended to produce a candy board.

Discussion on the December WSBA holiday party.

Meeting adjourned 8:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Finley, WSBA Secretary