

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes
Board Meeting
Stedman's Bee Supply, Silverdale WA
April 16, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 6:14 PM.

Quorum Present: President Sophi Gwynne, Vice President George Purkett, Treasurer Bob Finley, Secretary Janet Finley; and Trustees Joe Gwynne, Lucia Olson, and Darlene Stiffey were present. One WSBA member, Sherry Whybark, was in attendance. This is the first Board meeting held separately from the regular general membership meeting, with the goal of increased efficiency.

The minutes from the March 20, 2018 Board Meeting, electronically distributed, were accepted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Sophi Gwynne

- Reminder that Package Day, when the shipment of honeybees arrive at Stedman's to be distributed, is Saturday, April 21.
- Flyers and handouts were designed by Sophi for Package Day.
- Volunteers to support the Association tables, hands-on demonstrations in the apiary, and to assist those with questions should arrive at 8:00 AM for a 9:00 AM opening.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: George Purkett

- No report

SECRETARY REPORT: Janet Finley

- Following the announcement that newsletters and reminders would be restricted to members in good standing, several membership renewals have been submitted. The distribution list has been reduced from 346 to 142, reflecting more closely our true Association size.
- The number of successful students completing the Apprentice Beekeeper Course is 70. Four failed to complete their tests despite the opportunity to submit answers following the last night of class. Janet has prepared a spreadsheet with all pertinent information and is awaiting the promised newly designed spreadsheet from the WASBA. The goal is to for the certificates to be produced and distributed to the students more quickly.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Finley

- The total of WSBA funds at the end of March stands at \$21,320.95 spread between savings, checking, and Marketfund accounts.
- The Apprentice Beekeeper Course was a success, and enrollment exceeded the number of students necessary to "break even."

- Bob ordered adjustable WSBA ball caps with his own funds and will sell them for a donation of \$25. Any funds above the original purchase price will be submitted to the Association as a donation.
- Discussion of the need to include in the budget a line item for promotional materials.

MOTION: That a line item be included in the WSBA operating budget for promotional and marketing materials. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

MOTION: That the Promotional/Marketing Materials line item be funded with \$200. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

- Discussion of awarding active Beekeeper of the Year awardees with lifetime membership in the WSBA. Award is presented in December.

MOTION: That past and future recipients of the WSBA Beekeeper of the Year Award will receive a lifetime membership in the WSBA, as long as they remain active in the Association. Moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

- Discussion of the need to amend the WSBA Bylaws to reflect that, in the event that the Treasurer cannot conduct Association business, that the President will be authorized to act. This was always the case in the past, but recent interactions with Kitsap Bank requires wording be inserted in the Bylaws and Board Minutes to reflect this authorization.

MOTION: That the WSBA Bylaws shall be amended to include under Article VI – Duties of Officers, Section 4 – “In the absence of the Treasurer, the President shall assume all rights and responsibilities of the Treasurer.” Motion moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.

- Discussion of the recent donation of gift cards being used by members, on behalf of the Association, without authority. Sophi will design a special form for any cash, gift card, or in-kind donations to provide a paper trail and receipt in much the same way she designed the form for reimbursements.

APIARY MANAGER’S REPORT: George Purkett

- George has determined the schedule for the “Queen Rearing in the Northwest” course that will include twelve weeks of instruction and hands-on activities in the apiary. Each class is expected to be two hours in duration.
- Hive Tracks, a subscription system for recording observations while inspecting hives using a Smart Phone, has been purchased by the Association using funds from the Apiary line item. Members can also use this system in their own home apiaries.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Co-Chairs Darlene Stiffey and Shaari Unger

- The Apprentice Beekeeper Course was an unparalleled success, and the redesigned slide presentation, borrowed speaker system, and preregistration process made the six-week course run smoothly. The United Methodist Church of Silverdale, where the course was held, reported no problems or concerns with our group and hope that we will use their facilities next year.
- Discussion of the need for presentation materials for speaking engagements to the public. In the past Brenda Smith has used her own materials to provide visual aids during presentations, but other volunteers willing to speak to community groups have had to provide their own. Sophi Gwynne, who manages the WSBA Library, has volunteered the Library's budget allowance to purchase materials to be checked out by those members giving speaking engagements. If additional sets of materials are needed, then that will be addressed when the 2019 budget is drafted.

A question from our Trustee Lucia Olson prompted a discussion of the ordering of 32 queen bees from Michael Palmer of Vermont. The target date for shipment is July 7. The WSBA Apiary will retain two queens, and the remaining queens will be offered first to members in good standing. Three Palmer queens have already been reserved by members.

Board meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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General Membership Meeting
Stedman's Bee Supply, Silverdale WA
April 17, 2018

CALL TO ORDER – 7:03 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOARD MEETING REPORT

MOTION: “To amend the WSBA Bylaws to include under Article VI – Duties of Officers, Section 4 – ‘In the absence of the Treasurer, the President shall assume all rights and responsibilities of the Treasurer.’” Motion seconded, discussion, members present voted unanimously.

OPEN DISCUSSION ON BEE-RELATED ISSUES

PRESENTATION -- “First Aid In The Apiary” by Joe Gwynne.

MEETING ADJOURNED – 8:58 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Finley,
WSBA Secretary