

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes
Board Meeting
Stedman's Bee Supply, Silverdale WA
November 21, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:07 P.M.

Quorum Present: Officers George Purkett, Bob Finley, Janet Finley, and Frank Wilson; Trustee Joe Gwynne; and Vice President Elect Sophi Gwynne were present. Vice President Larry Carbaugh and Trustees Lucia Olson and Darlene Stiffey were absent. Other members were present and were seated during meeting.

The minutes from the October Annual Meeting were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Bob Finley

- The total of WSBA funds stands at \$16,488.36 spread between the checking, savings, and Money Market accounts.
- Seven members have renewed their membership for 2018.

APIARY MANAGER'S REPORT: George Purkett reported

- A crew of volunteers led by Joe and Sophi Gwynne hauled away yard debris from the site of the new garden and moved excess gravel to around the gazebo, raking it smoothly.
- A call was published in the November newsletter seeking a member will to volunteer as Apiary Manager for 2018. Brenda Smith served during 2017, and we thank her for the tireless service to our Apiary hives. Fred Drewien has contacted George to say that he is willing to take on the responsibility.
- Brenda swept up the Apiary grounds, placed tops on the boxes to repel the rain, and broken top bars were removed.
- There is still the outstanding task of removing dead bees from the reduced openings so that cleansing flights can be accomplished when weather and temperatures permit.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: George Purkett

- George brought to the meeting two Mason jars inside which bees had formed comb and stored honey. He discussed the process of enticing them to view the glass jars as viable hives.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Larry Carbaugh

- No report.

AGENDA ITEMS/GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- TOPIC 1: INSURANCE
 - Frank Wilson once again contacted the Washington State Beekeeper's Association concerning whether a group liability

insurance policy could be developed to no avail. Consequently, he has spoken with Nationwide Insurance about “coat tailing” onto Stedman’s business insurance policy for our WSBA Apiary management and educational events.

- TOPIC 2: HATS
 - Frank Wilson has initiated a fundraising campaign through the end of December with customink.com to produce ball caps featuring the embroidered WSBA logo and offer them to our members for \$20. Proceeds of the sale of the caps will help finance our Apiary needs over 2018.

- TOPIC 3: PORT-A-POTTY
 - Sophi Gwynne is still pursuing the idea of having an available comfort station located near the apiary over the 2018 season. Honey Bucket has given her a monthly price for rental and serving of their unit, which is the same whether the rental is short or long term. The question of how to finance the rental was discussed.

- TOPIC 4: BURLAP BAGS
 - Bremerton City Nursery, a garden center, advertised on Facebook that they had available for pickup a large quantity of burlap bags. Jerry Taylor collected the lot and brought them to the meeting to distribute to members. Burlap is handy in keeping a smoker lit.

- TOPIC 5: EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEE
 - The need for an Educational Committee Coordinator was discussed. Many opportunities exist for educational events in addition to our yearly Apprentice Beekeepers Course, but we are seeking a volunteer to be the point person for the Committee. Jerry Taylor suggested that his wife, Sheila, may be well suited and willing for the job.
 - Discussion on the need for a mass printing of booklets for the Apprentice Beekeeper Course. Sophi Gwynne may have a contact in the printing business that can reduce the expense of the duplication services. She requested a pdf. copy of the booklet to be sent to her.

- TOPIC 6: CHRISTMAS PARTY
 - The Christmas Party Committee has met on two occasions and determined that this year the December 19 monthly meeting will be held at the home of Darlene Stiffey, one of our new Trustees. Darlene has a large, heated barn suitable for a gathering of people; and use of the that venue saves the club the \$150 rental for the use of the Silverdale United Methodist Church’s rooms that has been used in years past.

- TOPIC 7: PRISON BEES
 - Discussion of the need to move the two hives on the prison grounds to an area not to conflict with the butterfly population. The thought is that the two species are competing for the same food resources.

NEW BUSINESS:

- NEW BOARD SOIREE:
 - An informal gathering of the 2017 and 2018 Officers and Trustees of the WSBA will be invited to the home of Bob and Janet Finley on December 12 at 6PM. The intent of the event is to introduce incoming and outgoing Board members and to open discussion on goals and challenges of the various positions.
- APPRENTICE BEEKEEPER COURSE:
 - Discussion on the desire to have the 2018 Apprentice Beekeeper Course supported by a group of presenters. Shaari Unger volunteers to once again grade the weekly exams and will offer to present one of the ten sections of the course.
 - Janet Finley has volunteered to contact the Silverdale United Methodist Church about use of their meeting room for the six weeks of the course, which runs on Tuesday evenings 6 PM-8PM from the end of February to the beginning of April.
- 2018 CALENDAR:
 - Shaari Unger designed a 2018 calendar with photographs, helpful tips, and other interesting features and proposed that the club duplicate a number and sell them as a fundraiser. This was met with enthusiastic support.

WSBA GOALS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN 2018:

1. Plan events ahead better so that promotion can produce more activity.
2. Update the WSBA website and make it more flexible and designed for fluid use by multiple managers.
3. Create an Educational Committee to distribute responsibility to a group.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Janet Finley, WSBA Secretary