

West Sound Beekeepers Association Minutes
Board meeting
Stedman's Bee Supply, Silverdale WA
April 18, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 P.M.

Quorum Present: Board Members George Purkett, Larry & Gerry Carbaugh, Bob & Janet Finley, and Brenda Smith. Several members were also present.

As there was no formal March meeting, conducted during the recently completed Beginner Beekeepers Course, there were no minutes. The minutes from the February meeting were accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- WSBA funds stand at \$21,472.26.
- The Beginner Beekeeper Course had 92 applicants register for the six-week course of study, which added them to the roles as WSBA members, but only 84 students completed the test materials.
- A big thanks was given to those who supported and managed the Beginner Beekeeper Course: George Purkett, Larry & Gerry Carbaugh, Frank Wilson, Brenda Smith, Shaari Unger, Dorothy Sandberg, Bob Finley, Charles Schafer, Jerry Hominda, and Debra Langley-Boyer.
- Discussion of Apistan strip distribution on Package Day and roster sheets to be made available to determine who is a "member in good standing (2017 dues paid in full)" thereby eligible to receive two Apistan strips per hive purchased from Stedman's Bee Supplies and who is not eligible.

APIARY MANAGER'S REPORT:

- New Apiary Manager Brenda Smith reports that one hive from last season is barely alive. Eight packages have been ordered through Stedman's.
- Discussion of yellow jacket traps. Brenda positioned four traps in the Apiary with various methods of entrapment.
- Brenda also painted woodenware, swept debris, rearranged hive equipment, and organized the supply cabinet and shed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: No report

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

- The March newsletter was digitally distributed on March 1, 2017 to 240 subscribers.

- An email was sent on March 20 to all members to remind them of the location change for the March general meeting.
- The April Newsletter was digitally distributed on March 30, 2017 to 242 subscribers.
- An email was sent on April 2 to all members with suggestions for hiving their bee packages and reminding them of Stedman's Package Day on April 22.
- An email reminder was sent to members in the week prior to the April meeting, which contained advice from Jean Ball on her methods for introducing a new package of bees to a hive.

OLD NEWS/GENERAL DISCUSSION:

- George Purkett will craft a set of instructions for the application of Apistan strips, which are to be supplied to members on April 22. Frank Wilson volunteered to print out the sheets as his donation to the club.
- George and Frank will supply sampling jars on Package Day to several members for a baseline "Sugar Shake" to test for presence of Varroa mites, and then record the results of subsequent tests to monitor the effectiveness of the Apistan strips.
- General discussion of various alternate Varroa mite prevention techniques.
- Speakers for future meetings are needed.
- Volunteer Coordinator needed. (Following the meeting Sophi Gwynne accepted the position.)
- The WSBA annual picnic was discussed. The date is August 19 from 12-4 PM. Janet and Bob Finley have volunteered to host the gathering at their Bremerton home located at 3268 Old Sawmill Place NW.
- Frank will arrange for the ordering of WSBA T-shirts bearing the club's logo.
- A request was made to compile a geographical list of beekeepers within the club. The intent is to allow subgroups of members to form support groups, offer localized information, share supplies and equipment, and to mentor each other. Janet Finley volunteered to sort the membership by the May meeting.
- The color of marked queens for 2017 is yellow.
- Discussion of the purpose of having a club apiary as a training tool. Is care of the apiary, too much for one person to handle, that as a Journeyman Beekeeper task or should we develop a volunteer roster?
- Discussion of Michael Palmer queens ordered. Arrival late June.
- Discussion of upcoming Kitsap Fair booth.
- Discussion of spring master gardener event.

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 P.M. as members filed into the room for the general membership meeting.

WSBA General Membership Meeting
April 18, 2017

Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. The room was filled to capacity.

Brenda Smith distributed nametags; new attendees provided contact information and were furnished with a nametag. Those renewing their membership submitted checks to the Treasurer.

Sophia Gwynne generously and graciously provided snacks for the meeting.

President George Purkett greeted newcomers.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Open discussion on differences between Carniolan and Italian bees, reminder of upcoming Package Day, equipment differences, and pest control.

PRESENTATION:

Dana Schack demonstrated the vertical hives with presentation windows. He crafts the Slovenian style of beehives.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Minutes submitted by Janet Finley