

# Sheboygan County Beekeepers Association

July 12, 2016

Secretary's Report - Minutes on website - no corrections

Treasurer's Report - Total in Savings and Checking - \$1,908.27

Attendance - 42

Old Business -

- Bookworm Gardens went well. 16 stations going. Saved left over materials for next year.
- Maywood - split the hive
- Museum has 2 hives
- Dan Pitsch has educational materials, please contact Dan if you need to borrow anything.
- Potluck/picnic - great time, good food. Jamie made notes for next year, how to make adjustments for food, etc.
- New location?? No-one seems interested.
- Additional meeting months and better use of November meeting. Need to check on reserving here an additional month or two. Possibly have a meeting for "new" people in February, so they have time if they are interested. Show equipment for starting, remind them about ordering bees. Dan Pitsch - motion to add a February meeting, seconded by Diana. Passed. Kurt will check about the additional meeting if we can use this building. Check to see who might be interested in doing a presentation.

Committee Reports - N/A

Purchases - reimbursements for June picnic

New Business -

- Sustainable Beekeeping will do a pollination presentation for us using top bar hives in August.
- Flow hive update (Jim Kuplic) Harvested 1 frame, messed it up a little. Then did another and had 2 quarts of honey.
- No contact yet for working at the Sheboygan County Fair.

Correspondence - None

## Q & A Discussion

- What should I be doing this month - make sure that you have enough supers on. No downside to adding supers.
- For this time of year, what is a reasonable breakdown of brood, pollen & honey in a top brood box. It was recommended to remove any queen excluder so that bees will begin to develop comb. Some bees won't go through an excluder.
- New hive swarmed, typical? Can happen.
- When to begin harvesting honey. Harvest anytime a super is full. Or pull out capped frames and harvest. It was recommended to extract honey right away because of hive beetles.
- Laying worker hive. Best way to handle is put newspaper over another hive. Or, shake bees out and they will go to other hives.
- Grass and burdock, what can I plant for bee food. Dutch white clover.
- How to control ants near hives without poison. Borax, cinnamon, white pepper.
- How many times do you re-queen before leaving them alone to their own devices. Once..... Expensive!
- Hive beetles. Kurt had an issue and was wondering if anyone else did.

Hive report - various results.....

Book Report - Annette Selk, The Secret Life of Bees, New York Times best seller. Annette enjoyed the fictional book, not much bee detail.

Program - Garry Sydow - November, 2015 Wisconsin Convention for Honey Producers - information on queens. Rearing queens, effects of chemicals on queens. Use new comb to raise queens. Wisconsin Honey Queen gave an overview of her year. She promotes Wisconsin honey. National Honey Queen was there, she does a lot of promotional talking at State Fairs. Pollination, 1.7 million hives to pollinate almonds in California. Pollination fees are between \$160 and \$200 per hive. Hive loss in 2015 was 60%.

Refreshments - John and Beate Lucynski, Emily and Joe Dolfen (Thanks!)

Motion to adjourn - Ray Nasgovitz

Second - Kevin Krueger

Next Meeting - August 9th

Respectfully submitted by Kathy Petersen