
Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association

A meeting of the **Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association** was held at the **Farm Bureau Building in Quincy, IL** at 7:00 PM on **March 27, 2018** by **President Dale Hill**. Attendees included several active members along with new members who have recently joined our club mainly through the beginning beekeepers class.

Approval of minutes

Stacy, club secretary, read the minutes from the February meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved as read. Please see Stacy at the next meeting if you aren't receiving the meeting minutes by email and wish to be on the list or to see why you may not be receiving them if you are already on the list to receive them.

Reports

Debi, club treasurer, gave the treasurer's report. We had a beginning balance of \$3,034.04. We received income of \$118 for dues paid. We had total expenses of \$350.53 (\$70 to the ISBA for membership dues, \$15 for new checks ordered for our new bank account, \$240 to Blake for a new hive, and \$25.53 to reimburse Debi for the purchase of a website book.) This resulted in a new ending balance of \$2,801.51.

The treasurer's report was unanimously approved as read.

Old Business

Bee packages. If you ordered your bee packages from Albert Hilty, he will be delivering them to Hannibal at 8:00 AM on Thursday, March 29, 2018 behind Fiddlesticks at the Quality Inn & Suites parking lot. You must commit to pay for your bees-no cancellation of orders with Albert.

Do you need help installing packages?

Motions

A motion was made to purchase bee packages for our newest mentor Sierra who is an FFA member at Highland High School and the Payson Ag class in Payson, IL. Motion was seconded and approved by members to purchase bee packages for them.

New Business

Bernie didn't have much to report on apiary inspections. He did say that the state of Illinois was going to be having their annual inspectors meeting this coming Friday in Springfield, IL. Dale will be joining Bernie and going with him. Bernie wants everyone to know that if you're not getting your bees through the MVBA it is illegal to keep bees in Illinois without being registered. Inspections are free. The importance of having your hives inspected is to insure the health of the hives. He also mentioned that packages are being shipped later this year than last year. Kelley Beekeeping isn't shipping packages until May 5th. Bee's coming to us are coming off of the almonds in California.

The Missouri State Beekeepers Association will have their Fall Conference October 19th and 20th at Truman State University in Kirksville, MO. Bernie attended the Missouri State Beekeepers Association

meeting in Warrensburg and said it was well attended. Also mentioned a couple of the speakers that were there-if you should get a chance to hear Alexandra Pain on bee diseases it's well worth it.

The Illinois State Beekeepers Association's Summer Meeting will be held June 9, 2018 in Edwardsville, IL. Speakers for the summer meeting include Steve Chard with Department of Ag, Dr. Masterton with University of Minnesota, Dr. Dolezal and Dr. Julia Fine with University of Illinois. Panel discussion of Illinois Best Practices and Legislative Concerns. Pre-registration cost is \$70 per person and includes an on-site lunch. On-site registration cost is \$70 per person no lunch included.

We have a new equipment loan policy for FFA/ 4-H mentored new beekeepers.

You can use 1 teaspoon of white vinegar to 1 quart of sugar water to help preserve the sugar water longer so it won't go bad.

Learning Information

<http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/>

<http://www.ars.usda.gov/Main/docs.htm?docid=12050>

Missouri Botanical Gardens

www.gardeninghelp.org

<https://driftwatch.org>

Downloadable booklet on bee diseases

<http://pubs.cas.edu/PubTitle.asp?VarTitle=field+guide+to+honey+bees&Submit=60>

Randy Oliver

www.scientificbeekeeping.com

www.beesource.com

Blake Bratten did a presentation on Top Bar Hives for our March meeting. Thank you Blake. Our topic for our meeting in April will be on swarms.

Announcements

Bernie brought sad news to the club that longtime club member Mia Fleegal had passed away. We are sorry to hear of her passing.

Bernie mentioned that he will have his open house again this year but that it will probably be the last as it's a lot of work for his daughters.

The Payson Ag teacher shared contact information for anyone wanting specialty crop Illinois grant application. The contact person is Erin Cleary at (217) 782-2172

Last year Dale did a field day in his bee yard and is considering having a field day again this year. If there is interest, be sure you bring clean jackets and clean gloves.

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM by President Dale Hill. Next meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 in the basement of the Farm Bureau Building in Quincy, IL.

Secretary

Date of approval