

C.O.M.B. Minutes

Monday, December 10, 2018

Meeting was held at the MSU Pavilion, Farm Lane, East Lansing.

Present: Mike Risk - president, Dale Woods- vice president, Jenifer Blackburn - treasurer, Dianne Karsten- secretary, Brian Jennings - web site coordinator present, Roger Hoopingarner -founding member Robbyn Smith club librarian Present.

Classroom 5:45p.m. Led by Chris Robbins

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. in the small auditorium by Mike Risk.

Dale Woods wanted to thank the members of C.O.M.B. for the plague and recognition of his service to the club as he was unable to attend the October meeting.

Robert Johnson is chairing the Package bee purchase and will have more information on package bees in January

Mike Risk spoke for Steve Tillman who was absent over proposed changes to the bylaws for the Michigan Beekeepers and fielded questions as we encourage members to step up to leadership roles. Steve Tillman has agreed to chair the nomination committee and election committee.

Steve Tillman had proposed a three-year rotation for president in waiting, then president, then the retired president would be the 5th member of the board.

Kay Barber proposed that the election of officers not change and be an annual event as we have done for each of the past 10 years. She had correctly stated that as a club we struggle getting people to volunteer for office positions.

Robert Johnson also had an alternate proposal that the secretary and treasurer be two year positions elected on alternating years. The president would also serve two years and the officer at large position would be a training ground for candidates for president. Nothing would prevent the person from currently holding the position from continuing. Brian Jennings will be posting an explanation of each option on the club website.

These differing viewpoints arise from the fact the it takes leadership skills and commitment to foster a flourishing and growing club. While

it may seem that leaving things as they are has worked we need to think about bringing in fresh ideas and differing viewpoints and sometimes that comes with a change in personnel. Our club is not just made up of beginners, we need to have programs that engage the wide variety of skills present in our membership and the collective experience of the novice, the sideliner, the hobbyist and from time to time we need to understand the professional beekeeper. The three proposals to our bylaws will have an effect on how we move forward.

January is election time Please pay your dues so that you may vote on the bylaw proposals but also on the candidates for office . Write ins and last minute additions to the candidate pool will be accepted.

Steve is looking for candidates to run for any office/position. Brian Jennings has indicated he was willing to run for president and Chris Robbins is willing to run for vice president. Dianne Karsten has agreed to stay on as secretary and Jennifer Blackburn as treasurer. This does not mean that you cannot run for one of these offices as well.

The Main speaker was Zachary Huang associate professor in entomology at MSU. His presentation was **Honey Bee Phermones: Biology and relevance to BeeKeeping.** This was a topic we had not explored much at other meetings and there were many insightful ideas presented for beekeepers to try on their own. Dr. Huang was available for questions after the presentation.

There was no break at this meeting. Refreshments were available throughout the meeting and we appreciate the added donation of deviled eggs.

Liz Gorecki will take over the mite kit sales for the club from Dale Woods. You may contact her to order a kit to be brought to the next scheduled meeting or she may have kits with her. The cost is \$20.00 even. To text your request and information; 517-719-8373 cell or e-mail her at redhawkyoderowski@gmail.com .

The door prize will start again in February and it will be a benefit of club membership. Jennifer is looking at ways to update the membership roster.

This is a fun effort and there is no charge for door prize tickets. Door prize items will be on display on a front table. *We are always looking for donations of items for the door prize.* If your number is drawn you will select from available items. If you have no interest in the item, please donate it back to the door prize table or do not claim the item. We will draw another number for unclaimed items.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:05 p.m.

Please note that the Sentinel Hive visits are now ended for the season. We will return to the auditorium next month and the Beginner Session led by Chris Robbins starts at 5:45pm in classroom C.

COMB meetings are held on the second Monday of the month.

Dues are \$10 per annum, payable ASAP by members, both old and new. Please consider joining. We work hard to plan informative, fun meetings with something for many levels of beekeeping.

If you have ideas for presentations' that might be of general interest or want to recommend or know of speakers, please contact any member of the board. Please send additions and or corrections of the meeting notes to

**Dianne Karsten,
karsten@msu.edu I will try to get minutes updated as soon as possible.**

**Respectfully yours,
Dianne**