Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes

March 26, 2019

The MVBA monthly meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Dale Hill. We had 49 members and guests present.

The minutes from the February meeting were read by Suzi Dunnaway and were approved as read.

Treasurer Debi Love gave the treasurer’s report. We had a beginning balance of $2759.21 Expenses paid since last meeting included $213.56 for books for both classes with 8 books left in inventory. Jacob Torres was paid $100 for his presentation at the last meeting on the Illinois Varoa Mite Project. Dues paid to ISBA in the amount of $310. Other expenses for the class were paid to Judy Hill for $27.94 for refreshments and Brian Schenck for $97.12 for door prizes he purchased at Farm Store. Farm Store did give us two $10 gift certificates for door prizes. We have one more expense to pay for both classes when Bruce submits a receipt for the refreshments for the first class. Income received since the last meeting included dues received in the amount of $262. $180 was received for t-shirts and ballcaps. $522 was received from the class on March 2, 2019. This results in an ending balance of $2,974.59 and the report was approved as read.

Bernie reported that he is going to Springfield this Monday to sign all the paperwork to officially be a state inspector again. Congratulation Bernie. He showed the group a document that can be downloaded from the ISBA website called “Best Management Practices for Beekeeping in the State of Illinois. (I will try to attach a direct link) There will be a fall conference at Moberly on Oct 18 & 19 at the Moberly Community College. More information to follow later. Bernie gave a report on the Missouri State Beekeepers meeting that he just attended. He said that there was a lot of information about swarming, checker boarding and making splits. Suggestion was made to make checker boarding a topic for a future meeting.

Dale reported that the bee packages will be here this Thursday at 10:00 behind the Fiddlesticks restaurant.

Dale gave a demonstration to show how to put the package of bees in the hive body. He talked about feeders and stressed to feed the bees one to one sugar syrup with honey bee healthy and 1 tsp white vinegar to 1 quart syrup. Next meeting he will update what needs to be done month by month.

Bruce Moechnig gave a very information presentation of his data collected from his horizontal hives showing the consumption of honey used by his hives over the winter. Another plus to the use of extra insulation besides using less honey is that they produce less moisture as they consume less honey.

In new business, Dale reported that the 1st Annual Hannibal Great Garden Conference is Sat April 13 from 8 AM to noon at the Hannibal Lagrange College. Cost is $20 per person to set up a booth to sell honey if anyone is interested.

Dale reported that the ISBA summer meeting will be held on Friday, June 7 at noon and continue Saturday, June 8 with lunch on your own. Registration opens April 11, 2019. Location of the summer meeting will be at Luechl Conference Center at Mc Henry County College, 8900 Route 14, Crystal Lake, IL which is northwest of Chicago.

At the April meeting we will discuss splits and insulation. Dale gave me a handout on plants for bees which I will attach to these minutes, and hopefully a link to the ISBA good beekeeping management practices.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25.

Thanks to Susan Dunnaway for taking the minutes.

Submitted to Stacy for emailing by Debra Love.