NWPBA Club Meeting Minutes — October 17, 2026

Call to Order & Presentation

- **Call to Order:** Shannon O'Lone called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM and welcomed members and guests.
- **Speaker:** Dr. Dewey Caron presented on *Honey Bee Biology and Winterizing Hives*.
- **Member Discussion:** Members shared overwintering practices, including tipping hives forward, using 1.5" to 3" foam insulation, double bubble wrap, burlap with pine shavings, and turning bottom entrances upside down. Discussions also addressed lower fall honey yields due to wet and cold weather, positive member results with Nurroa swarm treatments, and methods for mixing HiveAlive into winter sugar bricks and fondant.
- **Guest Presentation:** Maggie, NWPA State Bee Inspector, addressed the club regarding apiary inspections, American Foulbrood prevention, and state apiary registration ($10 for two years).

Officer Reports

Officer / Role	Summary & Action Items
PresidentShannon O'Lone	• Reminded committee chairs to submit 2027 budget estimates by November 1 so funds can be allocated.• The Board will review committee requests and discuss reallocating reserve funds into a money market account at the November meeting.• Announced that an At-Large Board position remains vacant, with two inquiries currently pending.
Vice President Jennifer Willert	• Working on 2027 programming; confirmed Emily Mueller is booked for the February meeting to speak on medicines from the hive.• Announced she will attend the Ohio conference next week.• Requested volunteer assistance with Facebook

Officer / Role	Summary & Action Items
	updates, website administration, and Google Workspace management.
SecretaryDylanna Grasinger	• Minutes recorded; approved prior meeting minutes as presented.
TreasurerJohn Prinkey	• Reported a bank balance of $15,908.26 (excluding day-of receipts and petty cash).• Pellet sales continue as a strong fundraiser, bringing in $6,769 to date in 2026 (following over $12,000 profit in 2025). The club repacks 600 lb bulk bags into 6 lb bags sold to members for $10.• Welcomed several new members joining today.

Committee Updates

- **Welcoming Table (Steve Odom):** Good flow; table operated smoothly with new sign-ups.
- **Scholarship (Jane):** Received two student applications for the $500 scholarship. The committee has ranked them and will announce the winner at the November meeting. Starting in 2027, the scholarship cycle will move from fall to spring (deadline late February) to allow more time for school outreach and promotions.
- **Field Day (Charlie Vorisek):** Approximately 130 attendees. Ernst Seeds was a great partner. Guest speaker Mark Gingrich gave an excellent presentation, two state inspectors led hive dive demonstrations, and three nucs were raffled. Member ideas for the 2027 Field Day are welcomed.
- **Woodcock Dam (John Prinkey):** The apiary currently has eight full-sized hives and one nuc; colonies were treated, mowed, and look strong entering winter. Planning a spring "Hive Dive" educational inspection for club members, pending winter survival.
- **Picnic (Mark Anderhalt):** 47 attendees. Betterbee donated sample hive tools for member feedback, and HiveAlive donated four products. Planning for August 2027 to fit between Field Day and county fairs, with goals to increase attendance.
- **Education & Outreach:** Educational outreach kits are being assembled for members to borrow for community presentations and schools; pilot kits will be reviewed by the Board in November.

Old Business

- **At-Large Board Vacancy:** Nominations and expressions of interest remain open to fill the vacancy.

New Business

- **2027 Proposed Budget:** All committee budget requests are due by November 1, 2026, for Board review and adoption.

Announcements, Raffles & Adjournment

Upcoming Events & Meetings

Event	Date / Details	Location / Speaker
Ohio State Beekeepers Association Conference	October 23, 2026	—
Pennsylvania State Beekeepers Association Conference	November 6, 2026	—
Next Monthly Club Meeting	November 23, 2026	**Speaker: Dr. Deborah DelaneyTopic: The Magic of Pollen**
PA Farm Show	January 9–16, 2027	—
Western PA Beekeeping Seminar	February 6–7, 2027	New Wilmington, PA

Raffles & Door Prizes

- **50/50 Raffle:** Collected $265 total. The winning ticket (ending in 6231) was drawn for $133.
- **Door Prizes:** Seven door prize tickets were drawn (822, 793, 800, 806, 799, 824, 796).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM.