

**Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association
Executive Board Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, January 19, 2023
Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds



Board Attendance:	Present	Absent
Tom Kennish President	X	
Mike Alonso, Vice President	X	
Sarah Alonso, Secretary	X	
Brenda Theurer, Treasurer	X	
Denzil St. Clair Past President	X	
Laura Brown		X
Joe Petrek	X	
Charles Heaton	X	
Quorum Established		

Guests
Phil Bartosh
Jan Petrek
Shelia St. Clair

Meting officially called to order at 6:30pm

Treasurer Report

Brenda Theurer

- a. Ms. Theurer reviewed the current bank statement. GCBA currently has \$9062.14 in savings and \$1434.74 in checking. The interest on the accounts fluctuates.
- b. All 22 checks that were received have been deposited. Ms. Theurer has written three checks, two were for the Christmas party and one was to the fairgrounds. Deposits were made for the 50/50 raffle.
 - a. Audrey Gargas won the January 50/50 and took home \$36. Total for the 50/50 was \$72
- c. Membership renewals and class registrations have not been deposited.

Motion to Approve Treasurer Report

Motion: Mike Alonso: Seconded by: Joe Petrek

Motion passes with one abstain (Brenda Theurer)

Secretary Report

Sarah Alonso

- a. Ms. Alonso briefly reviewed the minutes from December and confirmed that she made the proper edits requested.
- b. Ms. Alonso replayed that someone had reached out requesting assistance with a hive in Lakewood. The request was for someone to maintain the hive, but the owner would provide all equipment and

bees. The board suggested letting the person know they will need to reach out to the city to ensure they can hive on site before purchasing bees,

- c. Ms. Alonso stated that the club continues to receive registrations for the beekeeping class and gave all registration forms to Ms. Theurer. As well, relayed that she reached out to OSBA and our information has been updated on their website. Beekeeping classes and membership meetings are now up on their website as well.
 - a. Mrs. St. Clair also stated that GCBA classes are pinned to the homepage of the Facebook account. Ms. Theurer suggested encouraging members to share the Facebook post.

Motion to Approve Secretary Report

Motion: Denzil St. Clair Seconded by Brenda Theurer

Motion passes unanimously

Plan for Beekeeping Class

Tom Kennish

- a. Mr. Kennish reviewed the tentative plan for the upcoming beekeeping classes. The current order of classes are:
 - a. Needed Equipemnt
 - b. Installation
 - c. Seasonal changes
 - d. Summer managemenr

Mr. Kennish stated that we would teach the first class, and Mr. Bartosh would teach the second. Rick Moranz has stated that he will teach the third class. Mr. Kennish will reach out to Eric Manthey to teach the last class. If he is unable Mr. Bartosh or Mr. St. Clair stated they will teach the class.

The board will review the LCBA and GCBA's PPT to see which presentation is easier to follow and comprehend. We may use a combination of both PPTs. We should encourage members to visit the GCBA website for the apiary checklist as well as the hive registration for the county.

Before classes it was suggested that a call goes out for World Bee Day and Bee Yard volunteers.

- b. Ms. Alonso will reach out to local beekeeping supply stores for donations of catalogs and door prizes. Mr. Petrek stated that he will reach out to Blue Sky for items. Mr. and Mrs. St. Clair stated they will also make several donations to the club including a beginner beekeeping kit.

Mrs. St. Clair stated that Queen Right has eight "Beekeeping for Dummies" books and she will bring them to the classes to offer to sell. The book cost is \$15.10 and the club should sell them for \$25.

- c. Ms. Alonso suggested offering electronic payment for beekeeping classes. This is the norm in many places now and the club needs to be flexible and allow more methods of payment. The use of the Square carries a 2.9% service fee, but those cost could be put on the purchaser. For example instead of charging \$50 for the classes and membership, it is \$55. Ms. Alonso stated that we should also have a paypal or other electronic payment method on the website and a way for people to sign up for

classes through a portal off the website. Mrs. St. Clair agreed and stated this could possibly boost enrollment, membership, and donations.

Motion to Approve an Electronic Banking Option on the Website as well as obtaining a Square for other Electronic Payments

Motion: Sarah Alonso; Seconded by: Mike Alonso

Motion passes with one no (Brenda Theurer)

Bee Yard

Shelia St. Clair

- a. Mr. St. Clair stated that Eric Manthey has offered to head the Bee Yard and motioned the following:

Motion to Appoint Eric Manthey as the Head of the Bee Yard at the Cuyahoga County Fair Grounds

Motion: Denzil St. Clair; Seconded by: Joe Petrek

Motion passes unanimously

- b. Mrs. St. Clair reminded the board that the signs in the bee yard need a clear coat of paint and the hives need to be prepared for spring and World Bee Day. Mr. Bartosh suggested the use of a clear coat with UV protection.
- c. The new bee yard sign will need to be hung and should be erected on the inside of the fence. The fairgrounds had mentioned they would take responsibility of hanging the sign, however if they do not sign, the board will need to recruit volunteers to help.
 - a. It is important that GCBA fulfill their promise to erect the sign for our sponsors. Mrs. St. Clair stated she will obtain quotes for the cost of a sign that promotes our sponsors. She will have an estimate to the board by the next board meeting.

Membership Involvement

Sarah Alonso/Shelia St. Clair

- a. Ms. Alonso stated that we need to really start promoting more membership involvement in order to move forward the organization's mission as well as promote GCBA in the community. Ms. Alonso suggested having signup sheets available at meetings and on the website for various projects we are involved in. Mr. St. Clair stated that he feels it is better to ask directly as some people will not see the signup sheet or will just not sign-up unless directly asked.
- b. GCBA is still in need of a newsletter editor. Katherine will continue to create the newsletter until we find one, however her services come at a cost to the club.

2023 Cuyahoga County Fair Chair

Shelia St. Clair

- a. GCBA is also still in search of a fair chair. Mrs. St. Clair stated she will remain on the fair board and will continue to work on the bee yard beautification project. She also agreed to continue to send out information on fair entries.

World Bee Day

Shelia St. Clair

- a. Mr. St. Clair reiterated that World Bee Day will take place at the fairground on May 19 & 20. School children will be at the fairgrounds on Friday and general public on Saturday. We will need to have volunteers help on both days. Mr. Bartosh stated that he will help with observation hives. Mr. and Mrs. Alonso stated they will also be on-site to assist both days with whatever is needed.
- b. Ms. Theurer asked if there will be information at World Bee Day regarding the GCBA Scholarships. She stated World Bee Day would be a great time to start promoting the scholarships since we will have a lot of children present. Mr. Kennish agreed and stated that we should have information available on the scholarships.

Motion to Approve Reviving and Promoting the GCBA Beekeeping Scholarship for Children

Motion: Denzil St. Clair; Seconded by: Joe Petrek

Motion passes unanimously

Motion to Adjourn at 8:03pm

Motion: Joe Petrek Seconded: Sarah Alonso

Motion Passes

Next Regular Board Meeting Scheduled
Wednesday, February 8, 2023
Cuyahoga County Fair Ground