

## The Greater Cleveland Beekeepers Association Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 17, 2021

Called to Order: 6:33pm

Board Members Present: Phil Bartosh, Sarah Marie, Sheila Maurer, Denzil St. Clair, Brenda Theurer, Larry Theurer, Shannon Warder

Board Members Absent: Tracy McKenna

Quorum Present: Yes

Guests in Attendance: John Rini, Sheila St. Clair

OLD Business:

Treasurer's Report:

Savings starting balance \$13,007.92. Ending balance \$13,008.12.

Checking starting balance \$7,397.01. Three prior outstanding checks cashed (\$100 January check to Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds for building use and 2 checks to Kathy Smith for webmaster fees), and a check printing fee for \$105.14. Ending balance \$7,051.87.

Treasurer made lots of deposits from membership renewals, beginner classes, and book sales. Total deposits \$1,205.00.

Treasurer has not moved 5k from checking to savings due to D & O insurance bill coming due. Bill has been received and is due on March 22, 2021 for \$1,482.00. Denzil St. Clair asked if any other vendors were pursued, Treasurer responded yes but that she never received any answers from them. Denzil St. Clair moves to pay the D & O bill, Shannon Warder seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

Larry Theurer explained GCBA relationship with Farm Bureau Insurance membership again. Will cost \$350 for 5 of the eligible executive board members. If GCBA buys policy membership for board members Farm Bureau has a table at future bee conferences and also gives a \$1200 donation to GCBA for sponsorship of conference/field day. Board made motion in February to purchase policy membership so treasurer will submit payment to Farm Bureau to secure the policy membership. Larry Theurer said he will submit letter to Farm Bureau to request the \$1,200.00 sponsorship money.

Treasurer requests approval to fairgrounds of \$100 for use of facilities. Denzil St. Clair moves to accept, Phil Bartosh seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

Denzil St. Clair motions to accept Treasurer's Report, Sheila Maurer seconds, all in favor. None opposed.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary noted April guest speaker, John Rose, will also do the live installation at 630pm, rain or shine. Brenda Theurer requested GCBA give John Rose a complimentary GCBA year membership since he is not asking for any payment for presentation. Denzil St. Clair made motion to approve, Phil Bartosh seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

Secretary updated board on status of the newsletter volunteer, Michelle Killen-Keith. Board wants the newsletter to go out to the membership on the Sunday before a regular monthly meeting. Board agreed Michelle could set her own deadlines for submission and also coordinate directly with Larry Theurer to get the President's Message. Larry Theurer agreed that Shannon Warder, as Secretary, would edit the newsletter and send it out to the membership and to the webmaster. Denzil St. Clair moved to accept Michelle Killen-Keith as the newsletter editor, Shannon Warder seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

Secretary agreed to send Kathy Smith, the webmaster, an email informing her of the status of the new newsletter editor, thanking her for her past help, and letting her know she will only need to post the newsletter from now on. Board agreed to meet at 6pm before the next regular meeting on April 14 to meet Michelle Killen-Keith in person.

Denzil St. Clair moved to accept Secretary report, Phil Bartosh seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Denzil St. Clair brought up the question of whether or not the association should look into a new website manager. It is not clear how much commitment Kathy Smith has to the association website and vice versa. Sheila St. Clair offered information on LCBA's website webmaster, that a member does it for a nominal fee. Shannon Warder asked if the association wants to pursue looking to contract a new webmaster vendor. Sheila St. Clair told the board in mid 2020 she had written Kathy Smith a detailed email about some of the things the association wanted on the website and other expectations. It is not clear what the exact agreement is between GCBA and Kathy Smith. Larry Theurer said he will contact her to clarify. Denzil St. Clair emphasized the need for an updated and vibrant website since it is how GCBA communicates to the world, and GCBA is one of the largest associations in the state and we have plenty of funds to produce a better website. Sarah Marie asked if maybe the newsletter editor knows of a webmaster, Shannon Warder said she will check.

Phil Bartosh volunteered to check into Lakewood's ordinance on beekeeping not being updated on the city's website yet.

Starting in May, meetings will start at 6:15pm so Phil Bartosh can do smoker demo and the beeyard can be worked. Larry Theurer said Dennis Eck only wants to allow Denzil St. Clair and/or Phil Bartosh to do this as he has a relationship with them and knows them.

May and June membership meeting topics/presentations need to be determined. Denzil St. Clair said he will work on it.

July will be picnic. August will be Cuyahoga County Fair. Denzil St. Clair suggested GCBA pick up some of the entrance fee to fair for members that come and work the booth, beeyard, etc. Denzil St. Clair suggested we secure a covered pavilion for the fair, Larry Theurer said he will confirm with the Fairgrounds.

Phil Bartosh questioned whether association would want to do fair prep in June or July at membership meetings. Denzil St. Clair suggested that fair prep involves too few people and a full extraction might be a better event to prep for and do it in September.

Topic of Field Day. Board discussed having Field Day the same week as a regular meeting, Denzil St. Clair suggested we maintain the monthly meeting as well as the Field Day that month. St. Clairs are going to

confirm the county inspectors for a panel at the Field Day. Larry Theurer said he will confirm with Stephanie Sadlon if she is going to chair the planning committee for the Field Day. Larry Theurer suggested the Field Day be kept "in house" and not advertised outside of the membership. Brenda Theurer said she will forward to the board a Field Day planning checklist that she developed in the past. Shannon Warder suggested we go all out for the Field Day, Sheila Maurer agreed, Denzil St. Clair suggested the association could hold bee races, queen markings, smoker contest, and possibly a bee beard if bees could be obtained. Discussion of Inspector Panel go for about an hour. Then activities could take place. Denzil St. Clair suggested a smoker contest that involves bursting a balloon to win the contest. Discussion about the timeframe of Field Day (start at 1030am-2pm)

Shannon Warder suggested the association bring back 50/50 raffles and door prizes to the monthly meetings. Sheila St. Clair confirmed LCBA is doing successful raffles at their meetings. Board agreed. Larry Thuerer suggested few items remaining like Dummies books can be given away at Field Day, and door prizes can resume at monthly membership meetings starting in June. 50/50 to start back up in April.

By-Laws review. Article I and II. Denzil St. Clair and Tracy McKenna had many edits. Denzil St. Clair read Article I and noted no changes were suggested. Summary of agreed changes so that Article II should read as follows:

#### Article II: Membership

##### Section 1: Eligibility and Annual Dues

Any person interested in becoming a member of GCBA shall complete a membership form and pay a yearly membership dues as set by the GCBA Board. Membership dues are payable annually. Membership may begin in any month and carry to December 31<sup>st</sup> and no partial year dues are accorded.

##### Section 2: Honorary Membership

Honorary Membership may be conferred by a majority vote of the GCBA Board. Such membership may be conferred only upon persons who have rendered unusual service to the association or who have attained prominence in the beekeeping field.

##### Section 3: Standing

Upon payment of annual dues a person is considered a member in good standing.

##### Section 4: Voting Eligibility

Members in good standing are allowed to vote for the GCBA Board at the annual meeting. Honorary members do not have voting privileges.

Denzil St. Clair noted that the Articles need to be shuffled around to include a section at the forefront that defines all terms in the By-Laws.

Next executive Board meeting Article III will be reviewed.

Denzil St. Clair moves to adjourn meeting, Sheila Maurer seconds, all in favor, none opposed.

Meeting adjourned 8:28pm.

