

C.O.M.B. Minutes

Monday, April 9th, 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, Kay Barber-treasurer- retiring, Brian Jennings - web site coordinator present, Roger Hoopingarner -founding member - Robbyn Smith club librarian was present. Chris Robbins at large education and beekeeping promotion.

Chris led a breakout beginners group from 6:00pm until 6:30pm in the small classroom. Installation of bee packages, bee nucs and tips for the first few days of caring for your hives. Chris followed up with a question and answer period before all present joined the main membership meeting.

Mike Risk and other experienced beekeepers were available to answer beekeeping questions prior to the meeting. We hope to have experienced beekeepers available before monthly meetings to answer questions from 6:00p.m. Until 6:30p.m.

The meeting started at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium and was called to order by Mike Risk. Mike Risk welcomed new members. Mike also spoke briefly about our continued participation in Earth Day Thursday April 19, 2018 at Constitution Hall. If you would like to volunteer your time for this event please contact Michael Risk <mrisk75@gmail.com>

Jennifer Blackburn passed around the sign-up sheet. Jenifer was busy collecting membership dues.

The COMB package bee coordinators this year are Robert Johnson and Mary Hobbs. Once again we will use Nectar Sweet Apiaries. Orders are closed and delivery is anticipated for May 1st updates will follow to those that have orders.

Nucs will be offered for sale by Dale Woods and Kay Barber. The price this year is \$165.00 and the bees will be from the same supplier as past years, the bees are out of Mississippi. Contact Dale Woods to order beeman53@wowway.com. Delivery is the end of April first part of May dependent on weather.

Mike Connor of Honeytree Nursery had some trees available and gave an interesting talk on the significance of choosing tree varieties wisely for both pollen and nectar production as these are a long term investment in a food source for your bees. Mr. Connor donated a tree to raffle off to a lucky attendee.

Deb Montgomery of Go Grow Plant Natives was new to our club and gave an interesting presentation on the shrubs and pollinator plants that she has selected to grow. We thank her for her generous donation of multiple pollinator plants to the lucky drawing winners in our audience.

About 7:45 p.m. there was a break to visit the vendors, refreshments provided by Myron and Dianne Karsten

Vern Stephens Designs by Nature; reviewed pollinator plants, weed controls, successive plantings and the importance of a diverse pollinator area.

All vendors had order forms and order forms will be available on both the C.O.M.B. website and Face Book.

Remember to bring your vehicles to the May plant sale!!! Also all flats must be pre ordered. Plants will be available before, during and after the meeting .We will open early for those who want to get their plants and leave. Tell your friends.

2018 Bee Symposium Monday ,April 23rd from 5:00pm until 8:30pm Mott Community College Regional Technology Center

www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-bee-symposium-tickets-43900821539

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:50 p.m.

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

Dues are \$10 per annum, payable ASAP by members, both old and new.

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,

karstend2053@outlook.com. I will try to get minutes updated as soon as possible.

Respectfully yours,

Dianne Karsten