

# **C.O.M.B. Minutes**

**Monday, January 11, 2016**

**Meeting was held at the MSU Pavilion, Farm Lane, East Lansing.**

**Meeting started at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium.**

**Present: Mike Risk, Kay Barber, Mike French, Roger Hoopingarner, Dale Woods, Dianne Karsten, Steve Tillman, Leslie Zink, Robyn Smith**

**Guests: Dave Anthony and representatives of AWS Bees**

**Shawn Shubel and representatives of Nectar Sweet Apiaries**

**Raffle items donated by: Mann Lake donated Mega Bee products and AWS donated 2 queens**

**President's Report: Annual elections ballot nominees fielded by Steve Tillman and Leslie Zink. There were no additions from the floor. Motion by David Heeg {?} to approve the slate and seconded by Bob Humphreys and the slate was accepted unopposed by the membership. The officers are as follows; Mike Risk as President, Dale Woods as Vice President, Kay Barber as Treasurer, and Dianne Karsten as Secretary.**

**Treasurer's Report: As of 12/31/2015 in checking account \$6,636.32, savings \$221.43, cash on hand \$297.00, for a Grand Total of \$7,154.75.**

**Bill Humphreys agreed to conduct an audit with Kay Barber of the club account. Mark O'neill offered to act as the verifier.**

**President Mike Risk recognized publicly Mike French and Debbie Foote for producing the C.O.M.B. Newsletter. Also Robyn Smith was recognized for serving as the club librarian. Thanks also to Steve Tillman and Leslie Zink for serving as the Nomination/Election Committee.**

**Mike Risk announced the C.O.M.B. beginner beekeeping class to be held Saturday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at the MSU Pavilion. There are still spots available if you wish to attend; contact Mike Risk if interested. [mrisk75@gmail.com](mailto:mrisk75@gmail.com)**

**Dale Woods announced a reminder to club members that the Annual Meeting will be held March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> at the Kellogg Center, MSU. Pre-registration is recommended. Information is available on the Michigan Beekeepers website, [www.michiganbees.org](http://www.michiganbees.org).**

**Mike French addressed the group about a queen improvement program.**

**Kay Barber announced the February meeting will be demonstrations of equipment assembly as well as a beekeeping and related items rummage sale. If you did not pick up a copy of the rules for the rummage sale, please contact Kay Barber for the information. Kay Barber can be contacted at [barberk@msu.edu](mailto:barberk@msu.edu).**

**Package Bees: Dave Anthony gave a brief overview of bee packages and queens available through AWS. He also had order forms on hand.**

**Shawn Shubel of Nectar Sweet Apiaries also gave a brief overview of bee packages and queens available through Nectar Sweet Apiaries. Order forms were available at the meeting also.**

**Dale Woods and Kay Barber will once again be offering Nucs for sale. Contact Kay or Dale for more information.**

***Feature presentation:* Dr. Roger Hoopingarner on “The Black Box” Wintering Honeybee Colonies. Questions regarding what is happening in the hive were fielded by Dr. Hoopingarner.**

#### **Meeting Intermission**

**C.O.M.B. member Mary Hobbs volunteered to be the coordinator for the club bee/queen purchase. At this time no decision has been reached as to a supplier when making the club order. Additional vendors will be presenting at the February meeting. For additional information contact Mary Hobbs at [blackberrymary@yahoo.com](mailto:blackberrymary@yahoo.com).**

**Closing discussion was led by Dale Woods concerning the purchase by the club of two or more improved queens (hygienic survivor behaviors) to be raised by Mike Risk and possibly Meghan Milbrath. Daughters of these queens would be made available to experienced club members by a process yet to be determined. No action has been taken on this proposal at this time, additional information is pending.**

**The meeting was adjourned approximately 8:20pm.**

**The next meeting is February 8<sup>th</sup> at the MSU Pavilion 6:30PM.**

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

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

**Please send additions and or corrections of the meeting notes to Dianne Karsten [karsten@msu.edu](mailto:karsten@msu.edu) . I will try to get minutes updated as soon as possible.**

**Respectfully yours,**

**Dianne Karsten**