

C.O.M.B. Minutes
Monday, July 9, 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, Brian Jennings - web site coordinator present, Robbyn Smith club librarian –absent
Roger Hoopingarner –founding member

The format was changed this month and announced on the website, Facebook and in membership e- mail. We did not visit the hives nor did the small classroom run as this was an activity for all members.

The new beekeeper session will start at 6:00 P.M. in the auditorium on removing honey and an extracting demonstration for the small-scale beekeeper by Kay Barber and Dale Woods

6:00pm

This was a hands on event where you could cut the comb, scrape the comb, crank the extractor, and taste the honey. Jennifer is the person to contact if you wish to rent the club extractor, she is also the club secretary. Jennifer Densteadt (jdensteadt@gmail.com). Once the honey harvesting was finished the regular meeting proceeded.

About 7:00p.m. there was a break, refreshments provided by Myron and Dianne Karsten Raffle items donated by Gale Moore and the Karstens.

Mike Risk introduced our guest speaker Anne Marie Fauvel. She is the new Bee Informed Partnership (BIP) Tech Team coordinator. She oversees the logistics of the expert Tech Transfer Teams servicing commercial beekeepers throughout the United States. This provides national data on the health of our honey bee colonies used to further research with the affiliated Universities. She is also the campus apiarist for the GVSU Meijer Campus in Holland and continues to teach classes related to honey bees and beekeeping at GVSU and in the community. Her topic is: Hobby Beekeepers as Citizen Scientists: advancing national honey bee research (and becoming better beekeepers in the process)

Notices

The MBA is looking for volunteers to fill vacant positions, especially those individuals who might be a voice with our legislature concerning pollinator topics. Contact any MBA board member for more details.

Queen cells; If you are re-queening or expanding and looking for improved genetics in your queens' contact

Brian Jennings <Brian@JenningsWeb.com>or

Michael Risk <mrisk75@gmail.com>.

If there is sufficient interest these gentlemen are willing to set more cells.

Next month if the weather is suitable we will resume the hive visits and the small classroom session. Please watch for club announcements in case we need to make any adjustments to the schedule. In August Steve Tilmann will be our guest speaker. Steve is one of our members and will give a presentation on his month-long trip to New Zealand. Along with all the amazing pictures he took he will also have a great story on beekeeping in New Zealand, and the Manuka honey story.

The meeting adjourned about 8:30pm and there was lively discussion that continued amongst individuals and presenters. Questions were fielded.

Dianne Karsten made a request for volunteers to help the club so we could handle all the activities currently available and those coming up in the future. A signup sheet was passed around to work on a youth scholarship program for the club.

We are always looking for volunteers, there is a lot to do to set up the meeting. Sometimes vendors can use a hand and sometimes we can use some help to man T-shirt sales, raffles, outreach projects etc. We appreciate those who step up and offer to help. C.O.M.B. is a large club and we are trying to bring different programs to cover a wide range of topics and interests.

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,

karsten@msu.edu. I will try to get minutes updated as soon as possible.

Respectfully yours,

Dianne Karsten