

St. Croix Valley Beekeepers Association general meeting minutes from July 11, 2019 at Peace Lutheran Church, Baldwin, WI.

Officers present: Dave Lambert, Charlene Tuck, Jerome Rodewald, Charlotte Nicholes, and Claude Bovi.

7:02 Dave Lambert welcomed club members. He spoke about the new club discussion group, scvba.mn.co, on Mighty Networks, not to be confused with the club's new website, stcroixvalleybeekeepers.com. Dave explained that this replaces the former Yahoo io group site.

Dave went on to remind members that we are still in need of volunteers for different committee positions. One of the most pressing is the Social Committee. He reminded the club that the August picnic has been moved to September. Meghan Milbrath will host a webinar in the Church's sanctuary at the August meeting.

St. Croix County Fair: At meeting time there was an open time slot from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm on Thursday.

7:14 Wisconsin State Bee Inspector, April Kustov, apiary inspector, is responsible for the northern half of Wisconsin. She reminded members that it takes 22 to 30 days for a queen to hatch out and begin laying, so if a hive is without a queen, decide if you are willing to wait or want to purchase another queen. She visited about 12 of the members' apiaries.

April discussed varroa mites and honey bees at considerable length. She also spoke about various mite treatments, their effectiveness, and other pros and cons. She encouraged beekeepers to use a variety of mite treatments during the season.

April advised beekeepers to take their honey off by mid-August. She encouraged members to visit <https://datcp.wi.gov> and search "honey bees" for some very useful information. She also liked the honeybeehealthcoalition.org site as a source of information. April provided her email address, april.kustov@wisconsin.gov and phone number 715-904-0143.

8:27 Refreshments

8:42 Business meeting: There was more discussion about volunteer help; Doug Sjostrom stated that there are still timeslots available for the Pierce County Fair Honey Booth.

Dave Lambert noted that the SCVBA offers three programs for beekeepers that most bee clubs do not; a youth mentorship program, an adult mentoring program for new beekeepers, and the church hives program. This program gives members a unique opportunity to watch an experienced beekeeper, currently Mitch Wayne, do hive inspections each month, weather permitting.

Sarah Jammer, one of the Club's youth mentorship beekeepers, reported that her hive had lost a queen, Mitch provided her with a new one. She said that she and Dave are getting her hive ready for winter.

Treasurer's report: Jerome Rodewald gave the treasurer's report, fielded questions, and provided copies of the club's current finances.

8:57 Brian Keller made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Amanda Boyce; approved.