

St. Croix Valley Beekeepers Association general meeting minutes, from the meeting at Peace Lutheran Church, Baldwin, Wi., on March 14th 2019, beginning at 7:00 pm.

Officers present: Dave Lambert, Pres. , Charlene Tuck, Vice Pres. , Jerome Rodewald, Treasurer, Charlotte Nicholes, and Claude Bovi, Co-secretaries.

7:00 pm. Dave opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, he handed out a printed agenda with the speaker schedule on the back. He introduced himself and the other officers to the membership. He mentioned that the new website was up, changing as we speak, and in need of input. He went on to note that the financial reports will not be posted on the website.

7:12 Dave introduced Jim Kloek as the speaker, whose topic was "Spring time in the hive" Jim presented a Power Point that dealt with what happens in the hive during March, April and May. March: check your overwintered bees, are they alive, are there at least four frames of bees, how's the honey supply, add a feeder pail and pollen patties now and until June 10th. April: continue feeding pollen patties and syrup, clean the hive on the first warm day, removing the dead bees from the bottom board. The brood should be in the top box, and you should consider "reversing" the hive if it appears successful and it is above 50 degrees. Begin mite treatment again in late April, and test for mites every month. Jim recommended reading the directions on the miticide, consider using a half dose if it is appropriate. He noted that Olivarez Honey Bees recommends not using synthetic miticides on Saskatraz bees. Beekeeping is a strategy to increase bee numbers, reversals help to slow "swarming", and he explained the "newspaper method" of recombining bees. Jim explained how to do a divide and how to use a queen excluder to help in that process. To add supers to the "parent colony" right away, and to wait 24 hours before introducing the "new" queen, with the slow release method to the split, adding a feeder pail as well. Clean up all colonies, and shut up any that are "dead outs" to save the honey. Dave introduced the new owners of Natures Nectar.

8:25 Dave reminded the club that we still need volunteers for some committees, particularly the social committee, who set up the snacks and drinks at meetings, and coordinate the summer picnic and the holiday party. Church hives committee and the Youth mentoring committee will be needing a new chair as Mitch Wayne will be stepping down from them both after this year.

Dave stated that Wisconsin has a program that requires out of state bees to be registered, Chip suggested that we put that link on our website.

Jerome provided a printed financial report and opened the floor to any questions and review regarding the finances.

Brad Mogen and Melanie Waldon spoke briefly about the new website, Brad made a motion that the club should provide \$1,000.00 for website expenses. Melanie seconded, the motion was passed. They suggested that we pay someone to manage our website.

8:44 Dale Wolf announced that he, along with Gordon Waller will be holding an Advanced Beekeeping Field Day at one of his bee yards, May 18th, from 3:00 to 6:00 pm, the fee is \$60.00. The information will be posted on the club's website.

8:50 Prize drawing:

8:55 Anita made a motion to adjourn, Brad seconded, the motion was passed; clean up and adjourn.