

LCBA Board Meeting
October 18, 2022

1. The LCBA Board Meeting was called to order at 5pm.
2. Roll Call:

Name	Position	Present	Absent
Jim Belli	President	X	
Josh Boller	Vice President	X	
Perry Plescia	Treasurer	X	
Nancy Scott	Secretary	X	
Scott Farrell	Director of Programming		X
Peggy Williams	Director (NewBees, Fair)	X	
Tom Miceli	Director (Web)	X	
Frank Moriarty	Past President	X	
Joel Kahling	Guest	X	
Karen Belli	Guest	X	

*Quorum: 4 members present

3. Secretary (Nancy Scott): Sent out the notes for the October meeting.
4. Treasurers report (Perry Plescia): We have about \$13,000 in our account.
 - a. Increasing the dues allowed us to get the computers and microphones.
 - b. Elvira Michalek has volunteered to be treasurer.
5. Committee reports:
 - a. Newbee (Peggy Williams):
 - i. Jim feels that we need to have the February Newbee meeting over two Saturdays. We go over equipment to purchase using the Dadant catalog.
 - ii. Jim feels that we need to work on the Newbee support.
 - iii. There are 56 members on the Google Newbee list, but these are new members to the Club, not necessarily new beekeepers.
 1. How do we want to define Newbees?
 - iv. Peggy and Jim will put a proposal together for what they want to accomplish for the Newbees.
 - b. IT (Tom Miceli)
 - i. Tom has old speakers that he is donating to the Club for when we show a movie or YouTube via the computer.
 - ii. We can plug the handsfree wireless microphones into the bank system.
 - iii. Tom donated a handheld microphone to the Club.
 - iv. We are going to the Bank at 4PM on November 3 prior to the meeting to figure out how to set up the microphones.
6. Lake County Beekeepers Association Board's position on the property tax issue.
 - a. 2023 is the Lake County quadrennial review of assessments.
 - b. Lake County has a new Chief Assessor
 - i. There are 18 Townships in Lake County

- ii. Robert S. Glueckert is the new Chief Assessment Officer in Lake County.
 - 1. People are saying that the Chief Assessor is taking a look at how people use bees for a preferred assessment. He has indicated that his goal is to standardize the farm/beekeeping rules across the 18 townships.
- iii. The Apiary Act in Illinois is governed under the Department of Agriculture (Illinois Statute 35 ILCS 200/60).
- iv. A number of possible responses from the LCBA to the Chief Assessor were discussed:
 - 1. Talk with him about what type of activities could be done to have your property considered to be a farm.
 - 2. Invite the Head Assessor to the Club to have him talk about his proposed guidelines.
 - 3. Have Jim contact the Head Assessor to talk about his proposed guidelines.
 - a. Jim stated that two of our members, both being assessors (one in Lake County and one in McHenry County) have suggested to the Chief Assessor to contact the Lake County Beekeepers Association by contacting Jim. To date, Jim has not been contacted.
 - 4. If there is a change in the law shouldn't there be a period of time for open comment?
 - 5. Our Club is less than 25% of the registered beekeepers in the County.
 - 6. Jim is going to update the Club about what we know about the taxes.
 - 7. Nancy will send Tom links to Illinois Laws that impact beekeeping so that he can post those links on our website.
- 7. Discussion about becoming a 501C3 organization.
 - a. We have looked at this in the past. The cost is about \$500. With Government shutdowns and Covid it has been hard to get specific information from the Government. Nancy has all of the paperwork needed and most of it is completed.
 - b. A 501C3 would allow us to get donations and we could get sponsors for large events.
 - c. Our annual tax returns will become much more complicated and much more expensive annually.
 - d. The Board decided not to go for a 501C3 designation.
- 8. Do we want to have a Christmas Party?
 - a. We have a December meeting.
 - b. December is a very busy time for families.

- c. The Board decided not to do a Christmas party, but to possibly have a mead party in February.
- 9. Petra Ahnert is going to talk about Beeswax/Alchemy at the November 3rd meeting.
 - a. Jim suggested inviting the Racine Club and NIBA to the November 3rd meeting.
 - b. Karen will send Nancy the contact information for these two clubs so that she can send them an invitation.
- 10. ISBA gives members who join in the 4th quarter a membership into the following year. Should we do the same?
 - a. The Board decided no.
- 11. The Board discussed possible presentations for 2023.
 - a. January 19th: Collect dues. Karen will present on Comb Honey. Questions from the New Year.
 - b. February: Tim Wilbanks.
 - i. Newbee sessions on two dates.
 - c. March: Panel – Newish beekeepers and their experiences.
 - d. Other ideas:
 - i. Tom Motavon State Inspector
 - ii. Katie Lee – Northern Beekeeping (her book is free)
 - iii. Megan, Werner, Dave?
- 12. Have a section of each meeting on “Things to be thinking about doing this month.”
- 13. Elections
 - a. Jim nominated Joel for secretary, but Joel doesn’t feel he has the skill set to be secretary. Jim will ask Brittany.
 - b. Elvira for treasurer.
 - c. Jim created a new position: Social Media (Google Groups and Facebook). He asked Nancy if she would take that position and she said yes.
- 14. Josh asked if there was anything we could do about increasing membership.
 - a. Can we get a list of who is registered in Lake County?
 - b. Jim will follow through on trying to get this list.
 - c. Once we get the list of registered beekeepers, we can send them a flyer about the Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:53.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Scott, Secretary

Approved on November 14, 2022