

# North Okanagan Bee Keepers

## February 19, 2018

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome 7:03pm

- Keith welcomed all to our meeting– wear a name tag
- 33 members were present
- reminder about 50/50 tickets

2. Vendor Showcase: Meadow Vista on June Springs Road was here to tell us about their operation, products, research, new products, and information about producing mead, enjoyed a sample of their mead – thank you for coming to our club.

#### 3. Business:

- Adopt Minutes – January 22 meeting, seconded & carried
- Membership Fees: BCHPA or \$20 to local club
  - BCHPA will rebate our local club \$10 if you registered before Jan 31!
- Okanagan College venue
  - interested in moving our meeting place to OC
  - OC will partner with us and provide meeting space for us in turn for helping them have bees on their campus for their culinary program
  - we could have between 5-10 hives on their property
  - 2-3 years at KCS would cost about \$2000 in fees= investment to OC for a 3-year contract
  - motion to move for a 3-year contract to OC and spend \$2000 in getting hives going, Keith will look after bees first year
  - motion seconded and carried
- Day of the Honey Bee – May 29, will do it on Sat. May 26 at Farmer’s Market
  - looking for someone to set up and look after event (8-1pm)
  - Carol volunteered – thank you!
  - typically, will have an observation hive and brochures
  - Farmer’s Market will supply tent, table, and chairs
  - Bob Chisolm can supply a hive for us again?
  - members can sign up for a 2hr shift to answers people’s questions
- Semi-Annual AGM March 9 &10 in Kamloops at Hotel 540
  - AGM plus 1-day Education Day, \$99 for both days, includes lunches
  - great line up of guest speakers like Andony Melathopoulos, Bill Stagg, Heather Higo, Leonard Foster, and more!
- Pest and Disease Management book available through our club \$15
  - excellent resource – our own Heather Clay co-author

g. Treasury Report – Carol

-bank balance as of Jan 1, 2018 was \$5,528.68

-still some loose ends from Fall Conference still outstanding

-Income:

50/50 Draws monthly 263.00

BCHPA refund from memberships 330.00

Memberships paid directly to club 40.00

Field Day May 13 310.00

Total income for 2017 943.00

Expenses:

Speakers for club meetings 322.00

Room rental \$80/month x 8 640.00

BCHPA fee for club members to attend fall AGM 2,200.00

Total expenses for 2017 3162.00

h. Motion to close business: seconded and carried

4. Guest Speaker: Bob Chisolm – long time beekeeper – Spring Management:

Bob spoke to us about early Spring items to keep in mind as Spring approaches

-must have strong hive health before hives go out for pollinating contracts

-don't start too early!

-dangerous to open too early and chill brood

-lose more hives in March than over the winter

-check out website: Paul van Westendorp at Ministry of Agriculture

-when temp is 10 C, on average, not too quickly, let them bee... 3 trips in Spring:

1. 10 C sunny no wind

-lift lid and say hi if they are, then lid down, if bees not there, look deeper

2. look for brood – temp must be warmer, will start laying soon

3. later on – (mid- March?) warm enough to look at brood (7 C at night, 15 C daytime), look for eggs, larvae, evidence of disease, etc

-then you can start working on hive, clean bottom board, check frames

-if hive is needed for pollination: feed now, pollen patties, etc

-talked about mite treatment

-Queens: buy package, keep girls strong, re-queen every 2 years

-Mid-May: introduce new foundation, mite check – alcohol wash – leave until warm enough, treatment

6. Keith Rae also spoke for a few minutes on commercial vs hobby beekeeper and swarm control

5. 50/50 draw – ticket #035 winner Doug S. enjoyed \$45.00

-also, ticket winner 083 enjoyed a bottle of mead donated by Meadow Vista – thank you!

6. Adjourned 9:00pm