

North Okanagan Bee Keepers

March 19, 2018

Minutes

1. Welcome 7:05pm

Keith welcomed all to our meeting

-35 people were present with about 4-5 were brand new

- reminder about 50/50 tickets

2. Vendor Showcase: no vendor showcase today as special guests will have more time

3. Business:

a. Adopt Minutes – Feb 19, 2018 meeting, moved by Kevin H. and seconded by Smiley N. seconded & carried

b. Membership Fees: BCHPA or \$20 to local club

-BCHPA will rebate our local club \$10 if you registered before Jan 31

-BCHPA also includes publication: Bee Scene

c. Okanagan College venue update

-interested in moving our meeting place to OC as agreed last meeting

-Keith still in discussions with OC and Culinary Department

-waiting for Kamloops Bee Club to see how their contract will work with their College

-no money has been spent yet on project

-Dan brought up point of who will be named on BCHPA registration and that companies cannot be named, only individuals

-Keith will suggest the head chef be named as registrar

-will need temporary apiary as season approaches: Debbie Schindler agreed and has space not far from College.

d. Day of the Honey Bee – May 29, will do it on Sat. May 26 at Farmer's Market

-Carol is looking for a few more people to fill in 11am-1pm slots-please talk to her

-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

e. Beginning Beekeeping Event

-Buckerfield's and some members of our club are hosting an event on Sunday, April 29 at 1pm at the West Kelowna Buckerfield's

- f. Regional Report: Rick Plantinga
 - reports that bees are starting to come out- waiting for weather
 - reports of Kamloops beekeepers getting too excited and carried away in opening up hives and feeding early and lost many hives because of this

- g. Semi-Annual AGM March 9 &10 in Kamloops: Dan Mawson
 - Dan gave us a quick report of the conference
 - business day and Education were good, good things happening including some annual provincial funding (\$25,000) for research, etc. many interested parties in this funding
 - blueberry pollination research was one of important topics of discussion
 - Dan is looking to re-brand the BCHPA to update and improve logo, etc.
 - Dan briefly went through some guest speakers like Andony Melathopoulos, Bill Stagg (*200 hive keeper- keeping operations self-sustaining*), Heather Higo, Leonard Foster, Dr. Peter Aram (looking at what Canadian honey 'looks like', creating a database for Canadian honey)
 - all speakers' sessions will be available on BCHPA website shortly for your viewing pleasure and education
 - Dan also confirmed some final numbers of our income from the Fall Annual Conference – our club should receive \$6400 total and will net approx. \$5000 after club pays for member subsidies

- g. New Business: no members presented any new business

- h. Motion to close business: Keith seconded by Ron and carried

- 4. Guest Speaker: Bill Ruzicka – long time beekeeper – Mite treatment using formic acid
 - Bill spoke to us about using formic acid as treatment for mites
 - Canada is only country in world where formic acid is considered a pesticide
 - formic acid is natural and not a pesticide, is legal to use
 - check out website: www.mitegone.com
 - many good articles to read that Bill went through briefly
 - Bill talked about brief history of pesticides, etc.
 - Bill discussed various topics using “mitegone” website as a jumping off point
 - Bill discussed wintering techniques, winter feeding errors, preparing
 - discussed idea of setting up a Kelowna Breeders Club for locally produced queens
 - Bill also discussed many of his personal outlooks on various treatments, etc

- 6. Keith Rae thanked Bill for presenting

- 5. 50/50 draw – ticket #7129 was the winner, and Debbie enjoyed winning \$42.00

6. Next Meeting: Monday, April 16th at KCS. Meeting adjourned at 9:06pm