

North Okanagan Bee Keepers

January 21st, 2019

Minutes

1. Welcome 6:30pm

- Keith welcomed all to our annual pot luck meeting
- 22 people were present, and one new person joined us
- reminder about 50/50 tickets
- Keith passed around the email address book
- we enjoyed the first 40 minutes or so of enjoying good food, friends and sampling some mead
- Chef Vincent provided the plates, cutlery, and set-up for us – thank you Chef Vincent!

2. Discussion

- a. Adopt Minutes – Nov 19th, 2018 meeting, James motioned, Joe seconded and finally Kevin carried
- b. Thank you to Joe Lalond for excellent talk on beekeeping last meeting
- c. Honey Extractor: Our club & Okanagan College owns one: talk to Keith about borrowing it, it is a 4 frame, hand crank but is quite efficient, located at Deb Schindler's place

3. Business:

- a. Adopt Minutes – Oct 15th, 2018 meeting, James motioned, Chris seconded and Kevin passed
- b. Membership Fees: BCHPA or \$20 to local club
 - BCHPA will rebate our local club \$10 if you registered before Jan 31st
 - BCHPA also includes publication: Bee Scene
- c. AFB EFB Disease Survey- reminder
 - any suspicious activity: ship off to provincial Lab
 - check provincial website for info
 - research going on to record various strains into a Canadian database
- d. Disease book for sale – every beekeeper should have one! \$15.00
 - talk to Keith or Carol
 - we sold last one, but will order more
- e. Facebook Page:
 - we have set up a Facebook Page for all members to participate, chat, and ask for help or advice
 - go to Facebook and search **North Okanagan Beekeepers** and ask to join
 - We have 15+ members so far

f. Opportunity for Education

- 4H club asking for member(s) to do a bee talk to young 4H members
- contact Dianna Dore at 250-765-0164 or contact Keith
- more details: June 2019, 4 x 1 hr. sessions, approx. 75 kids each session, younger age, 11-15 yrs. old

g. What should we be doing to our hives now?

h. Financial Report: Carol is still away but received the following:

Total Income for 2018	1387.45
Total Expenses for 2018	1032.15
Transferred to GIC October 31, 2018	8000.00
Bank balance at Oct 31, 2018	4061.08*
Total in bank	12061.08

*from this amount, club has previously decided to use up to \$2000.00 for setting up Okanagan College Aviary (bees, equipment, etc.)

i. Regional Report: Rick Plantinga

- was not present, is still on holidays

j. New Business:

- elections:

- Carol is willing to let anyone else be Treasurer if anyone is willing to, otherwise she will continue for another year as part of her term

- 2nd Vice position: since Gary had to stop beekeeping. James has offered to be 2nd Vice President, Keith offered his name, Smiley also recommended James, Kevin motion to close nominations, carried James is now our 2nd Vice President

- honey samples for data base of Canadian honey, regards to purity of honey, etc., geographic nature of Canadian honey

- more info at [BC Beekeepers.com](http://BCBeekeepers.com)

- next **AGM**: Prince George in early October, 2019

- next **semi-annual**: Kamloops: March 22/23, 2019

- Coast Kamloops Hotel register at BCHoneyproducers.com

4. College Update:

- will buy more items in the spring such as nucs, bees, etc.
- let Keith know if you have nucs for sale this coming spring
- College still need bottom boards, inner covers, hive covers, super pallets, super bee escapes
- some talk of having a bee shed for supplies and a 'home base' for the OC beekeeper or beekeepers
- maybe a Sea-Can (*small metal shipping container*) idea can be looked into - they are secure but must be pest-proof

5. Guest Speaker: John Gates
 - from Vernon area since 1974
 - he gave a little history of bee inspecting and showed some pictures of his career
 - AFB was quite prevalent back then- encouraged members to still get your hives inspected if AFB may be present in your hives (*free service from Provincial inspector*)
 - John gave us history of his journey of beekeeping, past practices (*up North*) of killing off bees for winter, over wintering wasn't common until he tried it
 - 80s was the start of the varroa mite
 - his history of queen rearing experiments
 - got queen rearing industry started in BC
 - researched bee drifting –very interesting research:
 - increase in drifting = decrease honey production
 - marking boxes = different markings for each box, bees can recognize shapes, not so much color (*they only see blue, green, yellow, white*)
 - researched electric fences before it became mainstream use
 - thank you John for giving an interesting history of your vast bee keeping experiences and research

7. 50/50 draw – ticket #424 \$42.00 to Deloras
 - also ticket #413 won a bottle of Mead and ticket #410 won bottle of honey beer, James and Laura

8. Next Meeting: Monday, February 25th at Okanagan College Cafeteria at 7pm
 - 1000 KLO Road, Kelowna
 - see map, we will be in building F
 - easiest parking will in lots 6 & 3 (*see map*)-it is free parking
 - link to map:
[https://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Assets/Departments+\(Administration\)/Registrar\\$!27s+Office/Become+a+student/Kelowna+Campus+Map+2017.pdf](https://www.okanagan.bc.ca/Assets/Departments+(Administration)/Registrar$!27s+Office/Become+a+student/Kelowna+Campus+Map+2017.pdf)

9. Meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm