

North Okanagan Bee Keepers

April 15, 2019

Minutes

1. Welcome 7:06 p.m.

Keith welcomed all to our meeting

- approximately 60 people were present, with a couple of new people joining us, one of our largest meetings, we had to meet in the main cafeteria room
- reminder about 50/50 tickets and name tags
- Keith passed around the email address clipboard & Doug encouraged name tags for all

2. Discussion

- Adopt Minutes – March 18th, 2019 meeting, Smiley motion, 2nd carried
- Website apologize for the many emails that might have come through, we would like to keep our list current
- Local Beekeeping Beginner Talks/Courses:
 - West Kelowna Buckerfield's on May 5th at 1 p.m. with Carol and Sheila, free
 - Heather Clay speaking on Urban Beekeeping in Vernon on Thursday, April 25th at Schubert Center
 - Vic McDonald, Beekeeping Basics, April 27th & 28th from 9-2 p.m., phone: 250-764-1825 or email at vic@beesincorporated.com
 - Chris Boulanger, workshop Beekeeping 101 Saturday May 11th, 2019 from 9-1 p.m. phone 250-491-1124 or email him at questions@okanaganbeefarm.com
 - Rick Plantinga is doing a BCPHA certified Beginner's Course, first session is free and its in West Kelowna at Okanagan Bee Supplies, starting Tuesday, April 16th. Phone: 250-712-9496 or email Rick at rhplantinga@telus.net
- Darlene Brule with Nature's Wild Neighbours Society youth presentation still working on it
- Bill Ruzicka in interested in doing the Breeder's Circle again this year and briefly spoke to our club:
 - he has 1 spot left, starting April 20th
 - Disease book – you should have a copy of it and keep it with you when you're doing your hive inspections
 - Bee Breeder Circle- go to mitebegone.com and click 'literature' link for more information
- Day of the Honey Bee – Saturday, May 25th, Bob Chisolm got space on that day at the Kelowna Farmer's Market – Stephanie will organize helpers, most likely at our next meeting

3. Business:

- a. adopted minutes from March 18th meeting
- 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 prov. lab for free
 - 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 received more book now
- e. Facebook Page:
 - go to Facebook and search **North Okanagan Beekeepers** and ask to join
 - 15+ members so far
- f. Regional Report: Rick Plantinga
 - lots going on:
 - discussion about using Crown Land
 - Insurance issues – still working on it
 - Beaverlodge- working on apple blossom research
 - BCHPA does training – webinars, etc.
- h. BCHPA AGM in Kamloops March 22nd and 23rd
 - all presentations will soon be online on the BCHPA website
- i. IPE fair: new honey brand display Aug 28th to Sept 1st
 - supply Keith with honey, local honey to be displayed
- j. New Business:
 - Bee operations for sale: Brainy Bee: Bob and Kay, Arlo's Honey: Helen Kennedy, \ and Bills Honey Farm: Bill Ruzicka
 - other sales: Chris is selling 35 boxes medium, Rob Condon is also selling business phone 250-808-7224
 - Vic McDonald brought in examples of using your boxes for 2 nucs, see Vic after meeting to show and demo for you
 - Bill R. offering custom extraction services
 - Bill put motion forward to charge for advertising on website, members discussed a bit, and motion to table motion for further discussion:
James motion/ Chris B. 2nd/ carried to table Bill's motion

4. College Update:
 - still working on trying to get a storage shed for upcoming Okanagan College's own apiary
 - have 8 nucs lined up, need plastic foundation
 - still need bottom boards, inner covers, hive covers, super pallets, and super bee escapes, looking pretty good however
 - be on look out for a suitable storage container which is somewhat rodent proof

5. Guest Speaker: Liz Huxter, Kettle Valley Queens from Grand Forks
 - Liz discussed many aspects of queens, splitting, and management, here is only a bit of what she talked about:
 - good to see local nucs and OK becoming self-sustaining
 - Liz talked about management, discussed about queens, nutrition, splits
 - Liz also discussed about your goals as it related to making splits or nucs
 - Liz mentioned equalizing your hives at certain times before the honey flow to control swarms
 - splits: you can split too early and too late
 - she then discussed about nucs, using local stock, and pros and cons of splitting at certain times: Spring? Summer? Fall?
 - putting nucs into proper place: location! Location! Location!
 - windless locations, which way are they facing? Nuc entrances
 - she provided lots of practical information. The club gave Liz a rounding applause for her lecture!
 - Thank you so much for sharing your knowledge with us Liz!

7. 50/50 draw – ticket #638 \$115.00 to Sue
 - also, Rick donated bundles of burlap for your smoker fuel: winner: Doug

8. Next Meeting: **Monday, May 13th** at Okanagan College Cafeteria at 7 p.m.
 - note: College is closed on May 20th, our normal 3rd Monday meeting day, so meeting moved earlier one week to Monday, May 13th**
 - 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. Adjourned around 8:50 p.m.