

# North Okanagan Bee Keepers

## September 16, 2019

### Minutes

#### 1. Welcome everyone 7:05 pm

Keith welcomed all to our meeting

-approximately 32 people were present, with a couple of new people joining us,

Meetings now 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

-Keith passed out some really nice "Member" nametags based on current data complete with nice lanyards and pouches

#### 2. Business:

a. no adoption of May meeting Minutes was presented at this time

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

-reminder: when registering, always click on the club you belong to:

"North Okanagan Bee Keepers"

c. Disease book for sale – every beekeeper should have one! \$15.00

-talk to Keith or Carol

d. Regional Report: Rick Plantinga

-encourage people to be members

-going to Prince George for Annual BC Convention

-from Kerry Clark: Varroa mites must be in control!

-lots of info is on BCHPA website

e. IPE fair report: Keith

-very busy time of year – 4 great days

-extracted honey for public, was a big hit, visitors would stay for a long time watching and tasting fresh honey

-the donated honey was extracted, bottled on site, and sold

-made \$1200 in honey sales

-big thank you to beekeepers who donated many frames of honey!

-Rick & Smiley helped, extracted, bottled, and packaged honey jars

f. New Business/Information:

Stephanie Taylor, Provincial Bee Inspector:

- Asian Hornet – now on Vancouver Island
- more of a public problem than a beekeeping problem
- will hang out at entrances and eat bees, etc

Montreal Apimonia 2019

- Dr. Thomas Seeley keynote talk was most interesting
- he discussed Darwinian Beekeeping: let bees do their own thing
- let strong hives survive, interesting talk,
- good sessions, lots of info
- trade show was quite informative – one item of note: "wasp guard" from New Zealand-looks cool - will try to put this info on our website
- 2021 in Russia, 2023 in Chili
- Stephanie also noted any mates interested in going to New Zealand to work around mid-November? Job posting – an International Apprenticeship Program

3. College Update:

- still working on trying to get a storage shed for upcoming Okanagan College's own apiary - keep looking!
- Keith submitted an application for funding for research
- after quickly re-submitting with tweaks, funding was granted to club
- the BBC funding through IAF \$5000.00, but program \$\$ must be spent by Feb. 2020
- purchased educational teaching boxes, which Keith demonstrated to the members present, posters, banners, and brochures of OK Flowers
- other beekeeping clubs also asked Keith now to design some banners for their clubs
- question from members: does BBC need matching funds? Answer: no
- question from members: how much honey came from OC Apiary? Answer: has not been extracted at this point, extraction will within days of this meeting with OC Culinary students during the day classes
- will now be heavily feeding OC bees for winter build up
- Vic McDonald expressed a note of thanks to Keith for all his work on the fair, the new OC Apiary, and doing all the work on getting funding
- members gave Keith a warm round of applause and thanks!

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4. Speaker: Vic McDonald

1. Kelowna Bee Bylaw

- right now "as is"
- plan is to first recognize City as a "Bee Friendly" community, then go here
- reminder to members to practice "good neighbor" policy

2. Varroa Mites! -discussed many items of note:
  - screen bottom board with sticky board
  - oxalic acid method – drip method is good
  - mites will feed in bee's 'fat' stores, etc.
  - let us be "supervisors" of bees, not "managers" of bees
  - 6 frame hives are a possibility
  - work with bees
  - to "wrap or not to wrap" that is the question
  - if healthy hive – maybe no need to?
  - Vic talked details on using Oxalic Acid
  - always check your results after treatment
  - French beekeepers are doing things a bit different
3. Inner Covers
  - Vic discussed and showed us some ideas on inner covers
  - winter top entrance ideas using swivel gate idea
  - warm entrance vs cold entrance
  - feed: bees like to "go over" something when getting food
  - winter: top insulation ideas
5. Speakers: Mark McPhail
  - Mark also spoke briefly on his winter preparations
  - mite treatments, formic acid, feeding, insulation on top and wrap around

Speakers: Rick Plantinga

- also gave us words of wisdom
- check for disease!
- formic acid treatments
- good fondant available in Kamloops

6. 50/50 draw – ticket: \$52.00 to ticket #778 Doug Sader

7. Next Meeting: **Monday, October 15, 2019 OC College**

- 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 approx. 9:00 pm