

RALEIGH COUNTY BEEKEEPERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 19, 2017

ROLL CALL – The Raleigh County Beekeepers Cooperative Association met in regular session on Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 6:30PM at Munson Hall with the following members present: President, Mark K. Lilly, Secretary, Debra Baer, Treasurer, R. Darrin Butcher. Vice President, Robert K. Jarrell was absent.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA /ADJUSTMENTS

R. Darrin Butcher called the meeting to order and requested approval of the agenda. Mr. Butcher made the motion to approve the agenda, Mark Lilly, seconded, motion passed unanimously.

RECOGNITIONS

- There were no recognitions

COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

- Meeting opened with Mr. Lilly requesting everyone introduce themselves and provide the group with the number of hives they currently operate, Of 18 members that provided a count, a total of 148 apiaries were counted. Mr. Lilly stated that there is good mix of new and old beekeepers considering the group has only been operating since August. The primary goal of the organization is education to provide consistency in the art of beekeeping and updates on new treatments. Group will not be involved in mis-information or old wives' tales. The group will operate to provide members information based on best practices and methods.
- Board Reports - R. Darrin Butcher, Treasurer, stated that he and Mark Lilly had completed meetings with students at the schools and had gotten a final count of students and instructors that would be taking the Beginning Beekeeping Course. A total of 13 students and 3 instructors were signed up from Liberty High School and Shady Spring High School.
- Other Reports
 - Rebecca Moretto, WV Department of Agriculture State Apiary Inspector provided a presentation on hive inspections, health of colonies, registering bees, disease, sanitation of tools and inspection checklists.
 - Mr. Butcher provided an update on the Beginning Beekeeping course starting on February 13, 2017. He stated that the course was filling up fast and considering there would be 16 students and instructors from ACT, there was a very good possibility that a second Saturday course would be warranted. The high school students would receive the course for free. Raleigh County Schools agreed to create the apiary yard which will benefit both high school students as well as members of the RCBCA. Mr. Butcher and Mr. Lilly further stated that another benefit of taking the course other than the opportunity for hands-on experience in the apiary yard, that those taking the course may also get a visit to their own apiary yard to inspect and possibly treat. Mr. Lilly also stated that he would provide students with local vendors selling nucs in the spring. Further, it was stated that the RCBCA will consider offering an intermediate course in the future. Mr. Lilly stated again that the main purpose of the group is education and that we don't want folks to take the class and walk away. We want students to become members and participate in the RCBCA.
 - Mr. Butcher requested a meeting of volunteers for Saturday, February 11th to design the Apiary Yard for Raleigh County Schools, determine a materials listing and provide an estimated cost to the Board of Education for the Peters Farm location. Mr. Butcher stated that the meeting would be at 10:00AM at the BOE Central Office.

- A brief discussion was had regarding brush-cutting at the Peters Farm location. Mr. Butcher stated that he would contact the volunteers that signed up when the weather is acceptable.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –

- R. Darrin Butcher, Treasurer, provided the fee structure for the Beginning Beekeeping Course as follows:
Recommended Fees:
 - \$40 per student/\$60 per couple plus cost of textbook for non-members pre-registered. (Pre-registration January 19, 2017 til February 6-2017).
 - Pre-registration fees (including textbook fees) can be mailed to:
Raleigh County Beekeepers Cooperative Association
251 Vista Drive
Mount Hope, WV 25880
 - Questions can be sent to raleighcobees@yahoo.com
 - \$25 per student/\$35 per couple plus cost of textbook for members, preregistered
 - \$50 per student/\$70 per couple plus cost of textbook for non-registered.
 - Textbook cost is \$22
 - Students and Instructors from Raleigh County Schools MOU would receive the course for free and Raleigh County Schools will provide their textbook.
- Mr. Lilly provided the group with information regarding the upcoming Honey Bee Expo in Parkersburg, WV on January 28th. Mr. Lilly stated that information could be found on the Mid-Ohio Valley Beekeepers web site. Mr. Lilly also encouraged members to consider going to the WV Beekeepers Association Spring Conference which will be held in Wheeling, WV at Oglebay Park. Mr. Lilly stated that this was the 100th anniversary of the WV Beekeepers Association and that the conference would feature some excellent speakers. There will also be programs for spouses and children that may not be interested in attending the conference.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – There were no policies or procedures to be considered.

CONSENT ITEMS

- Approve minutes of the December 15th meeting. Motion was tabled as Mr. Lilly did not post.
- Future meetings/events: Regular Meeting – Thursday, February 16, 2017 – 6:30PM – RCBOE Central Office - Munson Hall
Beginning Beekeeping Course, each Monday, February 13, 2017 through Monday, March 6, 2017 – 6:30PM to 8:30PM – RCBOE Central Office – Munson Hall
Honeybee Expo – Parkersburg, WV, Saturday, January 28, 2017
WVBA Executive Board Meeting, Saturday, February 5, 2017, Flatwoods, WV
WVBA Spring Conference, April 21-22, 2017, Oglebay Resort, Wheeling, WV

NEW BUSINESS –

- Approve Beginning Beekeeping Course Dates and Number of Courses
Mark Lilly made the motion to approve. R. Darrin Butcher seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve fee structure for Beginning Beekeeping Course
Debra Baer made the motion to approve. Detlef Ulfers seconded it. Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURNMENT –The meeting adjourned by consensus.

RALEIGH COUNTY BEEKEEPERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

Mark A. Lilly, President

