

OCBA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes 11-18-18

Cynthia Speed

The last board meeting for the year was held at the home of Mark Powers. The following members attended: Mark Powers, Ryan Chamberlain, Louise Rascoe, Nerissa Rivera, Cynthia Speed, Randall Austin, Lisa Vogel, and John Rintoul.

Budget

Mark opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. with a discussion about budget. Nerissa reported that we currently have \$21697.44 in liquid assets as compared to \$21761.00 at the end of last year. We do have some expenses not paid against the bank balance shown: a reimbursement check to John for the t-shirts and storage for \$1222.89 and reimbursement due to Mark of \$36.99 for speaker dinners. Nerissa reported that we have 39 paid enrollees in Bee School. She pointed out the largest expenditures: \$1100.00 to the apprentices, \$601.57 for church rent, \$510.00 for insurance, \$558.00 for storage, \$571.79 for class books, \$349.69 for signs, and \$1523.77 for the club hives and equipment. Nerissa mentioned that she had received no reimbursement requests for the State Fair. Mark will be reimbursed for party beverages. Randall asked for a new power point clicker.

It was decided that funds from lifetime memberships would be put aside and relegated to a special rainy day fund to be dealt with later.

Jim Evans has performed an audit and all was good.

Nerissa, Mark, and Ryan will meet at the bank to transfer access to the account and to change the club mailing address to the Post Office Box.

Bee School

Randall stressed a need for there to be only one contact with UUCH. The fee that we pay for rental of the building for Bee School and monthly meetings is ½ the normal rate, " due to the good work you are doing in the community and your prior responsible use of our facilities" per Wendy Calvin. Pre-registrations are now online with payment via Paypal. Registrations will occur at the door on the first night of school. As an aside, EAS suggested an alliance with "native bee people" who believe that managed bees have a negative impact on pollination resources. We need to figure out a way to educate that population.

Randall requested doorkeepers. Ryan, John, Cynthia, Lisa, and Nerissa volunteered.

Apprenticeship

Lisa has sent a message to 4H regarding applicants for the apprenticeship program. Megan has messaged the science teacher at her high school and reached out to the Girl Scouts. Randall gave a pitch for apprentices when he spoke at East Chapel Hill High recently. Lisa said that we will wait to see how many sign up then ask again for mentors from the membership again. Chris Apple has recently been appointed as the NCSBA liaison for 4H.

Miscellaneous

Ryan will talk to Brad Kosiba about continuing as the extractor manager and bringing the refractometer to meetings.

Everyone saw the GAP notebook. It's huge! John has completed a review and attached comments and suggestions and the book was passed on to Randall for review.

The collection of door prizes is reduced. Cynthia will send an email to the membership requesting donations of bee related items that they don't want.

UNC Science Fair

Chris Apple was not able to attend but sent two items for discussion. Printed copies of both were distributed. We received an invitation to participate in the UNC Science Fair. We were there last year with photo micrographs of bee parts. Mark commented that it was a worthwhile event attended by large numbers. He will contact Cary Donnerly to see if she is willing to head it up as Chris will not be available at that time.

State Fair

Chris sent a proposal suggested by Vickie Robertson's husband. It revolved around Honeybees and tea plants. Another idea was to highlight OCBA outreach. We would show everything the club did in outreach. A booth with a cohesive message is needed. Ryan will contact Dawn Rogers who made a remarkable showing as an exhibitor this year to ask her to coordinate the fair display next year.

Queen Rearing

Brad Kosiba has created a Google Group from interested "Born & Bred" participants. Nerissa who has successfully raised queens since the class will lead the group along with Guy Fricks. Another B & B class is to be held in 2019. We can submit a request for funding from the NCSBA who will match our funds up to \$500.00.

Honey House

John has lots of ideas in terms of design. He has been in communication with the director of Blackwood Park Farm but it has been slow going. An architect has been hired and will sit down with the county and with John. Ryan recommended reading the chapter on Honey House in the Hive and the Honeybee.

T-Shirts

The t-shirts brought in \$200.00. John talked about the company and the logistics involving a delay due to the hurricane and his needing to push for our original colors and design which were no longer available.

Speakers for 2019 meetings

Ryan has a list of possibilities which includes the speakers for the meetings canceled because of the hurricane. Speaker brainstorming: Jeff Lee on commercial beekeeping; Greg Farris (State

apiary inspector); Adolphus Leonard on how to win ribbons at the state fair (Since he lives in Wilmington, chose a meeting date when he is in town or nearby.); Suzy Spencer on Slovenian beekeeping; Bill Lord on international beekeeping; a NC State professor on plants; Master Gardener Mary Paulsgrove, weed expert; Mart Bumgarner, Ag Extension agent; John Rintoul on how bees choose the flowers they pollinate; Dawn Rogers on products of the hive; Lauren Carreto on ergonomics in the apiary; and an “Ask the Experts Panel”, so well received at our meeting this year.

Facebook

Erika Wittchen needs content. Erika48@gmail.com Ryan will send her speaker information.

OCBA website

John will talk to Todd Walker, who is extremely busy, about relinquishing website authority to him.

Newsletter

John agreed to continue in his role as “Up to the Minutes” newsletter publisher.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.