

OCBA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, March 2, 2018 rev.

Cynthia Speed

Our 1st executive committee meeting for the year was held in the conference room at the NCSBA Conference in New Bern, NC. Mark Powers, Cynthia Speed, Nerissa Rivera, Chris Apple, Randall Austin, John Rintoul and Lisa Vogel attended.

Mark opened the meeting with a mention of the audit that has not yet been performed. John said that he would contact Jim Evans with the goal of having it finalized by the next executive meeting.

Mark said that the Farm Bureau Insurance Policy was costing us \$510,000 a year. He circulated a copy of Amendments and Exclusions but did not have a policy. Nerissa will review the materials she received from Mary for a copy. John stated his concerns for liability at our community hives. The need for Agritourism signs at the hive sites was discussed. Although it would be a good idea, it does not supply complete immunity to us. John suggested a talk with the agent. Mark will meet with the agent before early May when the policy comes up for renewal. As an NCSBA Piedmont Regional Director Randall will try to find out what other clubs are doing.

Cynthia will ask Melinda Miller if a statement of how the prize money will be used, must be included with the GAP application. Chris mentioned there was practically no response from the group that signed up to help with outreach when they were presented with seven upcoming opportunities. Randall requested a copy of the volunteer signup sheet so that he could recruit volunteers for the Master Beekeeper Program. Cynthia and John discussed talking up the GAP again at the March meeting with the hope of getting more volunteers from those absent at the last meeting.

Mark has completed Tommy Tuck's certification practical.

Mark mentioned the following workshops, weather permitting: March 11 Splits Workshop, March 24 Bee School Field Day at Randall's apiary, and in June Honey Extraction Workshop.

The following programs are tentatively planned: March Will be swarms with Chris Richmond, April will be Pollinating Plants with Geneva, May will be Bee Downtown, June will be Varroa by Randall prior to the Varroa Assessment Field Day possibly July 14, and August will be Bee Stings and Allergic Reactions.

Cynthia will send to Mark a list of the raffle prizes currently on hand. Mark will bring Goldenrod and Mountain Mint as prizes.

The Honey House is on hold but we will receive an update in April after the County Commissioner spring meeting.

Lisa discussed mentoring and apprenticeship. Mark will mentor Megan Talikoff and Elizabeth Pratson will mentor Catherine Trusky. The subject of a parent needing to be present when apprentices are engaged by the club was brought up. Lisa circulated a copy of the form showing that a parent is required to be present. She said that 53 students have signed up for cluster mentoring.

We won't accept the hexagon stage. We don't have room in our storage facility to keep it and the Durham club doesn't either.

The OCBA website is down until Todd Walker can fix it. Suspicions are that it was hacked. Nerissa showed concern for security on the site and we decided to make sure that no sensitive information is ever stored there. Mark will remind the members that OCBA membership does not include automatic access to the Google Group discussion forum. Each person must sign up separately.

It was suggested that everybody bring pollinator plants to Geneva's talk. We will use them as raffle items or come up with a suitable plan for sharing them.

Chris said that she has acquired a table small enough to carry but at the cost of \$69. instead of the budgeted \$50. The table that Cynthia donated is too heavy to easily transport and hasn't been used so she will reclaim it from storage.

John created a Survey Monkey survey to present to last year's bee class with questions on their experience and success. Randall will supply him with an accurate list of students.