

## OCBA Executive Committee Meeting December 15, 2019

Cynthia Speed

The Board meeting for the executive officers in transition was hosted by Ryan Chamberlain at his home. Ryan opened the meeting at 3:15. **Members in attendance:**

	2019	2020
President	Ryan Chamberlain	Celeste Mayer
Past President	Mark Powers	Ryan Chamberlain
Vice President	Celeste Mayer	Carrie Donley
Secretary	Cynthia Speed	Cynthia Speed
Treasurer	Nerissa Rivera	Larry Arnold
Outreach Director	Chris Apple	Dawn Rogers
Education Director	Randall Austin	Randall Austin
Mentor and Apprentice Director	Lisa Vogel	Lisa Vogel

### Treasury

Nerissa asked for feedback on what amount should be donated to Dr Tarpy and apiary research. It was decided that we would donate \$2,500, same as last year plus the \$575 proceeds from the silent auction. Nerissa will send two separate checks. We have two checking accounts with \$6800 in one and \$19,000 in the other.

The question was asked whether we needed to file taxes. Mark emailed John Rintoul and he responded immediately:

“OCBA is registered as an NC non-profit. OCBA has not applied for federal tax exempt status as a non-profit (also known as IRS 501(c)(3) status). The IRS 990 short or long form is applicable only to 501(c)(3) organizations.

To my knowledge OCBA does not have enough income to meet threshold income reporting requirements at either the state or federal level so no tax return is required as things now stand. Thresholds may have changed, but it would be unlikely.

**If** OCBA decides to pursue tax exempt status under federal IRS guidelines, **then** IRS 990 form would need to be filed each year irrespective of OCBA's annual income.

The advantages of federal tax exempt status are: 1) OCBA would be able to offer tax exempt advantages to donors; and 2) many small grants are specifically restricted to 501(c)(3) tax exempt organizations.

The disadvantages of federal tax exempt status are: 1) someone will have to pursue 501(c)(3) exemption status on behalf of OCBA; and 2) someone will have to file IRS Form 990 each year thereafter.”

Celeste, Nerissa, and Larry will meet at BBT to change over signatures on the accounts. Cynthia will send a copy of the November meeting minutes with new officer election results as required by the bank.

Dawn turned the state fair winnings of \$266. over to Nerissa.

Ryan brought up the question again of how to handle the lifetime membership dues. Randall suggested a separate account.

The church contract for rental of the space for the bee school and for the monthly meetings has been shared between Ryan, Celeste, and Carrie. Larry will pay in early January.

### Outreach

Dawn as the new outreach director has received materials from Chris except for one table and a set of keys to the gate and to the Milk Room (storage) at Blackwood.

Dawn will send a check for \$266 to Larry for the state fair winnings.

She has received a request from Pine Woods Montessori School for a visit to 2 groups of 40 each in December which will be postponed until January. If anyone receives any requests for outreach, please direct them to the form on the website which Dawn will get. Randall suggested that a mention of outreach activities be mentioned and applauded at the monthly meetings to let others know how much fun they are and to encourage more participation.

### Bee School

Randall reported that as of today, 65 school spots are filled out of 75 and he has no doubts that we will have a full class again this year.

	\$5,575.00 tuition
	(681.80) rent
	(900.00) instructors
	<u>(477.00) books</u>
	(2,058.00) total expenses
	\$3,516.20 net

Don Hopkins will replace Will teaching the disease section. Jennifer Keller will talk about Varroa. Chris will discuss getting started. Mark or Randall will talk about products of the hive.

### Apprenticeships

Philip (Fin) Hensel and Brennan Davis-Rawlins are the new apprentice scholarship recipients. A third student did not make the cut but was so impressive to the interviewers that Lisa and Dawn volunteered to support him.

### Bee Study Group

Randall sent out an email recently in search of someone or someone willing to facilitate the MBP Study Group this spring. Chris Apple and David Eckert are considering. A location has not yet been identified.

### Program Speakers

Carrie said that she has been working on bringing in speakers for our monthly meetings.

January Debbie Roos

February Adolphus Leonard

March Dr. Olav Rueppell, UNCG

April Jeff Lee (not yet confirmed)

Randall suggested Bill Lord, international bee development, Pat Jones, pesticides, and Dana Stahlman, retired commercial beekeeper. Other ideas were the Hive Scale Project; Suzy Spencer, Slovenia; David Fruchtenicht, on any topic; and Nancy Ruppert, nutrition.

### Secretary

Cynthia announced that this would be her 4<sup>th</sup> and final year as secretary. She has hopes that we can over the year identify someone perhaps in the study group who would like the position and acquire a service credit at the same time. We will begin the year without sign in sheets to see how it goes or until we identify a reason to continue them. The apprentices are required to attend 8 out of 11 meetings so Cynthia and Lisa will develop a way to keep their attendance. Cathy will continue as greeter at the meetings.

There was a lot of discussion in favor of creating a new position for a Membership Secretary. The tally of members is complicated and mostly inaccurate. There are multiple ways that dues are paid and handled by multiple people. As our membership has grown, there are enough tasks to justify one additional helping hand simplified without the treasurer, the secretary and a paypal person being involved.

### Bee Collaborative

Ryan has spoken to Tim Struttman and he would like to continue as coordinator. He needs a presence on the website.

### Website Development

Ryan with the web committee will incorporate updates to include the change in officers, OCBA treasurer email, PayPal email, reimbursement form with correct name and address, update of online membership form to Larry's address, a link to Randall's articles, auto renewal of dues, easy online sign ups for clusters and outreach, links to resources for outreach, a better description online of the bee school and the study group. . .

### Other

Erica Wittchen (Facebook) will be included in the website committee.

Kevin Bickford will take over the newsletter from John Rintoul.

Kevin and Ryan will be extractor coordinators.

It was decided that we will take off a year from the state fair display competition to focus on the web site development

**President**

Celeste will contact John to finalize the By-Laws that are in progress.

Celeste will get an update from John on the Blackwood Farm Park Honey House project.

Celeste will post to the exec board members, the yearly activity schedule she created.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:30.