

Kansas Honey Producers
Fall Officers Meeting
October 17 2013
Topeka, Kansas

Present: Steve Tipton, Becky Tipton, Joli Winer, Rocky Schmied, Grace Schmied, Robert Burns, Connie Hopkins, Ron Hopkins, Bill Vinduska, Candy Vinduska, Jim Kellie, Michael Sinclair, Kathy Richardson, Norbert Neal, Greg Swob, Cecil Sweeney, William Graham, Marietta Graham

Special Guest: Sharon Dobesh from K State Entomology department.

Meeting called to order by President Steve Tipton at 8pm.

Minutes were read and approved

Treasures report was presented by Robert Burns and accepted

1st Vice President Joli Winer: It is getting harder to get reliable hotel bookings maybe go to just 4 cities and try to stay in the some hotels to hopefully end some of the confusion. We will need to pay for one lunch this meeting to help pay for the meeting rooms at the hotel or the hotel will have to charge more for the rooms. The meetings move to hopefully attract more people and lessen the drive for those attending at least some of the time. Wants to know if paying enough for the speakers, some request a fee per presentation and some charge for the weekend and will do as many presentations as we want. This could be as little as \$100 to \$600. The board seemed to think that since we were getting national speakers the payment was currently acceptable. Joli will stay on as 1st VP but is struggling. **Need to order name tags for life members and officers.**

2nd Vice President Rocky Schmied: The fair did better than anticipated, had a good turnout of volunteers. Did 2 cooking demos at the Domestic Arts building, they passed out recipes, people then came to the booth looking to buy honey. We could to a Honey Day at the Domestic Arts building if someone would be willing to supervise that project. Would like to get more interest at the judged honey display, the current agricultural director is retiring so the area will be managed a little differently which will hopefully give us (KHPA) more access to the area so we can have people there to answer questions or even move the observation hive to that area. Since the fair booth is to promote beekeeping and provide possible sources of local honey. The education committee didn't work out this year but maybe still a possibility, did sell a lot of educational materials. Trying to get the ability to accept credit card sales using intuit. They need some tax numbers to set up an account. There seemed to be a number of potential customers lost because they couldn't use credit. Trying to get approval from the State Fair Board to get a hanging sign like the Wheat Commission but they won't commit to what it will take to get it approved. We have a lighted sign that is one sided maybe just get another one like it to put on the other side of the booth. Joli stated that the Missouri State fair pays for half of the judges' fee and would like to know if Kansas State fair board will do the same. It will be checked into since this was new information. Rocky will be stepping down as 2nd VP because of time constraints.

3rd Vice President Connie Hopkins: Tried to get the Honey Queen interviews with local TV stations during the fair but not much luck. Still some hats left maybe do polo shirts again checked into the prison in Hutchison, they will silk screen shirts but not embroider them. She will still be doing the silent auctions. Have the crown and sash from the queen, what do we want done with them? Suggested to check with Missouri Beekeepers to see if they want to buy them.

4th Vice President Becky Tipton: Have 7 applications the year for the youth scholarships. Four will be for the KHPA and two the NEKHPA will take. Clare Van Zelfden Valley Center, Josiah Beal El Dorado, Becca Bailey Maize, and Joseph Dewey Wichita. Becky will get mentors for them and send out acceptance letters to the youths.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sharon Dobesh from K-State Entomology department. She is setting up a new entomology “Bee Keeping” site and she would like input from the KHPA members. Possibly have a committee of 3 or 4 members to help with ideas and feedback about the website. She will be at the meeting talking to members and having those who want to be on the swarm list to sign up.

Hester Geurin will not be able to do the newsletter any longer. Since this is not an elected position, Steve will ask for a volunteer at the business meeting.

Tim Tucker will need to give up his state yard. He has 16 hives that have pretty old equipment. Jim Kellie also suggests that his yard be moved since Western Kansas is in a drought.

OLD BUSINESS None

Area Directors:

SW Ron Hopkins: Had some calls about how to start beekeeping, area is really dry.

NW Greg Swob: Sever drought, has 2 new beekeepers mentoring by mostly E-Mails doing some new beekeeper training will try to help promote the Hays meeting.

NC Kathy Richardson: Not much this summer, having a reenactment and will be having a demonstration hive at that.

SC Bill Vinduska: Had 2 local meetings since spring KHPA meeting. One was a “funday” with a potluck at Bills place, good turnout; other meeting was an open meeting with no topic just everyone asking questions. Meeting scheduled for November will be winter feeding and wax processing.

NE Mike Sinclair: Had a booth at the Mother Earth Fair in Lawrence, was very well received.

SE Norbert Neil: Have a group in Independence and has volunteered his shop for woodworking projects.

Meeting adjourned 11pm

Marietta Graham

Secretary