

C.O.M.B. Minutes

Monday December 8th, 2019

Present: Brian Jennings - president and web site coordinator, Chris Robbins – president in waiting, Jenifer Blackburn – treasurer
Dianne Karsten- secretary, Roger Hoopingarner -founding member Robbyn Smith - Librarian, Mike Risk -past president.

Deb Foote present we did sell t -shirts at this meeting limited in sizes available.

A special notation that there was no November meeting due to inclement weather and poor driving conditions.

The classroom started at 5:50 until 6:30. had Chris Robbins- answering specific hive questions and winter prep /mite control.

Business: three people stepped up to conduct a club audit of the treasurer's books, Angela Boutrese, - absent, Sarah Lackey and Myron Karsten retired to the small classroom to start the audit with Jennifer Blackburn-current treasurer.. The requirements to complete the audit from the tenure of the former treasurer thru the current treasurer were not completed due to insufficient documentation at this time.

Steve Tillman and Christopher Robbins are on the nomination committee to find potential candidates for offices. Jennifer announced she is stepping down and Dianne will step aside if anyone would like to be the secretary. Please contact them if you would like to run for an office or if you have ideas about changing our constitution;

Christopher Robbins naturesharvesthoney@gmail.com

Steve Tillman steve-bees@sbcglobal.net)

Mike Risk mrisk75@gmail.com

Leo Stevens and Dave Anthony were present with order forms for packages and extra queen bees. All club orders are to be handled for the club by Robert Johnson and order forms will be available on the website All checks are made out to AWS bees and must be turned in by the cut off date to be processed March 25th. The pick up location at this time will be the Karsten farm at 3904 Round Lake Road DeWitt Mich.

If you contact the Anthony's or mail a form to them, you are on your own and not participating in the club sale. The Anthony's will not be trying to determine who is a club member -you will have to pick your bees up individually at their place of business.

Deb Foote will take over t-shirt ordering and there was a vote to change the black t-shirts and add a periodic flowering table to the back of the shirt with the bottom letters spelling out COMB. This was inspired by Roger Hoopingarner who made the changes to the table. The yellow T-shirts will remain the same. The club members present voted to open a storefront with ordering available a couple of times a year. All orders will be handled by Deb Foote and she will make an order form available to the club shortly. The order form system will allow us to offer a few more items than what we currently have available to club members. A limited supply of some of the items will be available

at general membership meetings but not necessarily every meeting. Please watch the web site as well as your e-mail for the order form.

Brian Jennings wanted to remind folks of the upcoming annual Michigan Beekeepers' Association Spring Conference, March 6-7, 2020 at Michigan State University's Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Kirsten Traynor of Flickerwood Apiary in Maryland ---who will do a presentation for our club on campus the following Monday at a location you will receive directions to as it will not be at the pavilion.

The 2020 American Beekeeping Federation Conference & Tradeshow January 8-11, 2020 Renaissance Schaumburg Convention Center Hotel Schaumburg, Illinois. Experience the future of beekeeping! We're partnering with industry experts, researchers, exhibitors and your beekeeping peers to bring you all the latest in best practices and bee health.

Brian Jennings announced a short break to visit vendors and do the door prize drawings. The door prize is a benefit of joining the club, the tickets are free for club members. A special thank you for the cookie donations that were delicious !!

We had vendor Keith Lazar offering wooden ware and beekeeping supplies. There were magazines from several beekeeping suppliers and information about containers from Sugar Bush in Okemos. There were sample magazines that were free, and a discount is available if you subscribe and call it in, if you are an MBA member. Main presentation: Brian Jennings introduced our speaker this evening Mike Risk assisted by Roger Hoopingarner. The topic was winter Feeding and an explanation of the use of Oxalic acid to treat mites.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:30 p.m.

We have stopped the hive visits for the remainder of the year until next spring. The class room and main meeting in the small arena will continue thru the winter months.

I could use door prize items, they need not be brand new.

If you bake or feel inclined the coffee table will always take donations for our members to enjoy.

Watch the website and your e-mails for further information.

COMB meetings are held on the second Monday of the month.

Dues are \$10 per annum, payable ASAP by members, both old and new.

If you have ideas for presentations' that might be of general interest or want to recommend or know of speakers, please contact any member of the board. Please send additions and or corrections of the meeting notes

to Dianne Karsten, karsten@msu.edu. I will try to get minutes updated as soon as possible.

Respectfully yours, Dianne Karsten

