WALTON COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Time: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Location: Panera Bread Company, Loganville, GA

Purpose: Board of Directors’ Meeting

Attendees: Phillip Lord - President, Linda Rivers - Secretary, Larry Compton –Member at Large, and Ann Langley – Member at Large

This was our first Board of Directors Meeting with our new President, Phillip Lord. There was no Old Business to report.

**New Business**

Speakers

It was agreed that we would invite a visiting speaker every other month to speak to our association. Speakers to contact are:

Jimmy Gatt (678-524-4337) His subject would be the importance of planting bee trees. We should contact him very soon to speak with the club because the season to plant bee trees is quickly approaching in September/October.

Bee Atlanta – Phillip to contact the lady who is involved with placing hives in corporate locations.

David Bingham – buying/bottling honey from various venues

Phillip will contact all the above people to schedule them to speak at our association meetings.

501(c) 3

Bill Wages, Treasurer, had previously expressed concern about our accounting practices in case we get audited. Once again, we should look into the requirements and cost for setting up a 501(c) 3. Phillip will ask the members, at our July association meeting, if anyone has experience with setting up a 501(c) 3. A question was raised as to whether a 501(c) 3 is a charity or non-profit status.

Membership Record Keeping

Ann is working diligently with Billy to update Mail Chimp with members’ email addresses along with renewal dates for dues. Phil proposed that each payment from a new/renewing member should be given receipt number by Billy so that Ann can keep track of membership renewal dates.

Annual Membership Meeting in July and Nomination for Officer Positions

During our July 2019 association meeting, we will open up the opportunity to nominate members for Officer positions. These positions will include President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary, Hospitality/Membership (Member-at-Large), and 3 more positions for Member-at-Large, and President Emeritus. Write-ins will also be allowed. When we vote in August, all nominees and write-ins must be present during voting. The President will initiate and consider which members could fill the positions of librarian, door prize representative, field trip planner, newsletter writer, and promotional material planner. Ann will design and print the single ballot sheets in preparation for the August vote. In August, there will be one vote per family – not per individual. Only members are eligible to vote.

Business Cards

Ann felt that it would be useful to design WCBA business cards so that members can hand them out at their discretion.

Projector

Phillip proposed that the association needs to purchase a good projector for presentations. The Board unanimously agreed.

Budget

Ann proposed that we need to develop a budget to keep track of spending categories.

Education

Normally, WCBA holds an annual one-day beginner’s workshop to recruit new beekeepers and to help boost our budget. However, Phil felt that we should focus more on helping educate our new members who are already within the group. So, with this in mind, we decided not to hold a workshop this year. Instead, we are going to encourage new beekeepers to consider bee certification at Young Harris or with Cyndi Ball of Lazy B Farm in Statham.

Ann proposed that we consider funding a full or partial scholarship to help pay for a member’s bee certification fee.

Ann proposed that we could give educational bee talks to Home Owners Associations. Linda said she would like to volunteer her time to do this as she has previously given talks at Farmview Schoolhouse in Madison.

Larry mentioned that we need more committed volunteers to help with any upcoming educational programs. The work load usually falls on three or four members.

Larry proposed that we need to encourage each member to get involved with any aspect of the association (no matter how small), so that they will feel more connected and vital to the functioning of the club.

Field Trips

We can help educate our present membership in all aspects of practical beekeeping by organizing field trips. We should appoint a member to organize these trips. Some field trip ideas include the following:

Carl Bishop of Bold Springs Apiary will welcome anyone who wants to learn about hands-on commercial beekeeping.

Larry Compton will continue to open up his apiary to members who want more practical beekeeping experience.

Blue Ridge Honey Company is a great destination for those who want to tour a commercial extraction and bottling facility.

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Rivers

Secretary

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