

C.O.M.B. Minutes

Monday, November 6, 2017

Meeting was held at the MSU Pavilion, Farm Lane, East Lansing.

Present: Kay Barber-treasurer, Dale Woods- vice president, Robbyn Smith-Librarian, Mike Risk president, Roger Hoopingarner -founding member, Dianne Karsten- secretary.

Robbyn Smith club librarian was present. Jennifer Blackburn was taking orders for club t-shirts. Club T-shirt order forms will be available on the web site.

Keith Lazar was there with woodenware from Buggs Nest LLC. Merchandise, catalogs and order forms were available.

Contact: keithmlazar@hotmail.com 248-361-1710 or 810-648-2337

Dr. Larry Conner, Wicwas Pres LLC orders@wicwas.com present with books about bees and beekeeping.

Mike Risk and other experienced beekeepers were available to answer beekeeping questions prior to the meeting. We hope to have experienced beekeepers available before monthly meetings to answer questions from 6:00p.m. Until 6:30p.m.

Meeting started at 6:30 p.m. in the auditorium called to order by Mike Risk.

Mike Risk welcomed new members. Kay Barber passed around the signup sheet. Mike announced that we would now take donations for refreshments. If you enjoy having coffee and treats please drop some change in the can to cover our expenses.

Dianne Karsten brought up some information about Heroes to Hives and asked that our club give a \$200.00 dollar donation .There was no discussion and the motion was seconded by Roger Hoopingarner.

Steve Tillman agreed to chair the officer nomination committee and (?) Chris Robbins agreed to assist in looking for candidates to run for office.

First speaker: Dr. Dewie Caron discussed the 10 things you need to be prepared to do, deal with, to keep your hives going successfully. Often as beekeepers it is our failure to look ahead and make decisions' about how we might handle events at our hives such a mite burden , short or poor food supplies, physical issues such as ventilation, moisture control among others that contribute to our losses. It is not that we do not know these things can and do happen it is that we have not prepared and committed to a plan of action. Questions fielded.

About 7:30 p.m. there was a break to visit the vendors, coffee and cookies provided by Myron and Dianne Karsten. Traditional honey cake and honey cookies were available. Fresh cider and store cider were also available

Second speaker: Dr. Larry Conner, Wicwas Pres LLC orders@wicwas.com inquires by phone 269-344-8027

Dr. Connor continued on the theme that we need to know about our bees, their desirable qualities and procure queens that enhance our hives. IF we don't breed our own replacements we need to look for local queen sources. The club program to provide queen cells from improved stock was mentioned. Questions were fielded.

Meeting adjourned approximately 8:30 p.m.

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

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

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