

Sheboygan County Beekeepers Association

June 8, 2021

Dan - Call meeting to order

Attendance: 27 (all in-person, no ZOOM attendees)

Minutes - May Minutes are posted on the website <http://sheboyganbees.org/scba/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/SCBA-May-11%5EJ-2021.pdf>

Treasurer's Report -(Ken was not present, so no treasurer's report was given).

Checking account balance - \$1174.97

Savings account balance - \$948.79

Expenditures this Month -

- \$100 for a gift certificate for Shaun, in appreciation for all he has done during Covid with our ZOOM meetings.
- Also, a deposit of \$220 for 2021 memberships.
- We received a \$100 donation from Town & Country Club

Old Business -

- Update on bees for Above and Beyond Children's Museum -This is the annual replacement of bees for the museum. Peter D. split one of his hives; Ken created a nuke with those bees and the queen purchased by SCBA and installed them at the museum. Ken reported that the observation hive is doing very well.
- The June 8th meeting at Nourish went well, although it was definitely hot. The SCBA is now considered a part of NOURISH! We are also hoping to have the meeting via ZOOM for those not ready to come back in-person.
- No June picnic this year.
- Discussion of the Wisconsin Honey Producers Booth at the Wisconsin State Fair. Tracy's email was forwarded to everyone with this agenda. Is the SCBA interested in volunteering as a club for a day or part of a day? Or would members interested in volunteering rather do so as individuals? There is a link on her email for the sign-up. Dan spoke about how much fun the event is and encouraged membership participation. He also can be contacted for those who are interested.

Correspondence -

- There have been several contacts through the website of people wanting assistance with the removal of bees on their property, and people wanting bees place on their properties. These have been passed on to the membership.
- Ken is working on a cut-out procedure for bees in someone's house.
- We received an email about a group that is sponsoring mentors for VETERANS interested in beekeeping. <https://www.hivesforheroes.com/mentor-application>

New Business -

- Maywood has requested the SCBA start up the hives on the property. Peter and Elizabeth D. met with Samantha Lammers, the new Director of Maywood. We reviewed their demonstration hive and also discussed their interest in future programming. So, we will be prepared to discuss this info at our upcoming meeting.
- We had a brief discussion on further developing our presence in the community. This included how we recognize individuals and organizations who create Bee Friendly environments and how we might partner with those who are actively engaged in rebuilding a Bee Friendly world. We discussed several ideas including letter writing, logo development, sign creation.

Motion to create a Friend of Sheboygan County Beekeepers entity

By JoAnn Friedman, seconded by Elizabeth Dietz

- We are having difficulty getting club shirts from O'Callahans. Dan P. will look into the issue.
- As we are meeting in person once again, a friendly reminder that signing up for snacks and bringing items for the monthly raffle is greatly appreciated by all.

Questions sent from membership - no questions

Hive reports- 14 individuals/couples gave hive reports. Several members lost all of their hives over winter, but most are recovering. Many reports indicate that the bees are thriving this summer, so splits and swarms have either already occurred or are anticipated. A hive in the city reportedly swarmed 3 times in 13 days. A few members have harvested honey, reporting 2 quarts per frame yield.

Topics for the Month - Program - Peter D did a program on the method that he uses to treat mites in the hive. He also created a document on the topic that was made available to all members. Peter's program described an alternative method of application for oxalic acid in bee hives, citing Randy Oliver, *The Scientific Beekeeper*, as a source. Peter indicated he treats for mites 3 times per year and is considering a 4th application as insurance. The program was very well-received and generated a lot of questions from the membership.

Samantha (Sam) Lammers, the new director of Maywood Environmental Center was in attendance. She introduced the programming at Maywood and is working with Peter and Elizabeth D. to restore their observation hive, She is committed to building an educational program on bees, hives, and the environment and would welcome involvement of SCBA members in this effort.

Motion to adjourn By Dan Hocevar, seconded by Peter Dietz

Respectfully submitted by Elizabeth (Thanks Elizabeth!)