

# Dunn County Beekeepers Association

Menomonie Alliance Church Room 116

502 21st St. N, Menomonie, WI 54751

January 13, 2020

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. Roll Call 22 Attendees.

**Secretary Report:** No report as the last meeting was the Christmas party. Most were happy with Lucettes as a location, need better RSVP's going forward for planning and orders. We will revisit again in the fall for this year's party location.

**Treasurer Report:** Mary B. updated checking, savings, and petty cash. Motion to accept report by Jim C. and seconded by Veronica K.

## **New Business:**

Workshop update: Only two people have signed up so far. What is our number of paid attendees to continue to hold the workshop? Consensus is we need 10 paid registrations, totaling \$500 in registrations by Feb 1st or the workshop will be cancelled. Mary B. will let us know so we can complete the last details of set up and presentations. Jenny G. will plan on picking up soup and cold cuts and needs to know the count on Tuesday before the workshop to pick up supplies.

Jenny G. will do the TV interviews Jan 23rd and Jan 26<sup>th</sup> on channel 18 and channel 13. Randy R. will promote the workshop at Fleet Farm and the Menomonie Food Coop.

How do we lower costs of the workshop going forward? Looking at on-line link for book info instead of printing booklets each year. Do not handout hive tools at the workshop and maybe do that for new beekeepers that attend bee meetings and actually order bees. Most beekeepers do receive a hive tool when they purchase a starter hive kit. Feb 1 2020 is the deadline for 10 people to be registered for the workshop or it will be cancelled. Motion passed and seconded by Jennifer and Kathy M.

## **Further discussions:**

Why are new people not getting into bees? Are they not staying in Bees? Why are they not coming to the club meetings? Are we saturated with bee classes, workshops, and on-line information?

Chippewa Valley Beekeepers are offering 32 acres by Hallie, WI for a new bee habitat Requirements to be part of this and have a hive there include mite control checks; must take a class; fence around your hives and a Healthy Hive check list.

Kathy M. volunteered to look at calling former DCBK club members to see if they still have hives and if not, why and why they are not attending the meeting. Mary B. will put together a list for her to call. Suggestions needed for a simple questionnaire for her.

“The Pollinators” is a new movie following beekeepers for a year. Moving bees, working bee hives, mite checks, etc. Jenny G. said it is really impressive. She suggested we look at an option to have a screening here, maybe at the church, if we don’t have the workshop.

Look at options to raise money for our club. Raise dues next year? Do a different type of workshop for more experienced beekeepers such as raising queens or products of the hive, etc.

Second club extractor still hasn’t been found. Please help us locate the extractor and get it back to the club.

Dave W. is checking his hive weights, bees are using about two pounds per week. Continue to check your hives, clean away snow so they can ventilate and do cleansing flights. Check for food supplies so the bees don’t starve.

**Motion to adjourn** at 8:20 p.m. by Dave W. and seconded by Dwayne.

**Next meeting**, Feb 10, 2020: Plan to order your bees at the February meeting. Package bees come about mid-April and Nuc’s come about mid-May. Suggested options: Hanson’s Honey Farms – packages and Black River Apiaries- Nucs.