

December Meeting of the Dunn County Beekeepers ~ 2016

2/15/2016

Secretary's Report-given motion made and accepted

Treasurer Report-given motion made and accepted

AGENDA

- Roll call -- Beekeepers sign in
- Secretary/Treasurer's Report
- Old Business
- New Business
- Meeting Adjourned

Old Business

Reminder that the 2016 membership dues are due!

- \$5, please pay your dues if you have not already
- If you registered and attended the class, membership is included for this year

New Business

Bee Packages

- Do we want to make a motion to give a pollen patty with each package?
- Motion made by Jen Bauer. **Motion PASSED**
 - we will buy a pollen patty for each bee package
- Bee Package delivery
 - we are given a very short window of notice.
 - a general email will be sent out, and a Facebook post will be made
 - please be ready to pick up your bees.

Menomonie Alliance Church

- motion made to give the church \$300 for use of the building
- motion made to give the church \$50 for coffee
- Both motions PASSED

Feedback to Beekeeper Workshop

- Comments made:
 - the sound system or noise was a bit much in back
 - good feedback about information
 - Randy's visitors who came to see the workshop liked the class
 - liked the interactions with different beekeepers for different practices
 - time seemed good for workshop
- Was there anything that people felt they want more information on?
 - frames and kinds
 - equipment....people are finding that there are many different kinds of frames, etc.
 - check out reviews online about quality of equipment from retailers
 - feeding...you will have to feed when you first get your bees 1:1 ratio sugar to water
 - shop around for sugar....have the syrup ready
 - soy flour, rye flour, soy meal...use that too?
 - have your equipment ready and painted.

Black River Apiaries

- Klaus shared an email from the apiary. They are running some special offers on nucs, complete hives, and beginner beekeeper offers.
- See scanned info for details:

HONEY BEES FOR SALE

A special offering of five-frame "nucs"

Young laying queens of Italian-Carniolan Cross

Five frames of bees with brood, honey, and pollen

All for \$125.00

Selling also complete bee colonies

**Includes: bottom board, two deep brood chambers,
two medium supers, inner cover, telescoping outer cover**

20 deep drawn comb, 20 medium drawn comb

Queen-right honey bee colony

All for \$185.00

A special offer for first-time beekeepers

Beginning beekeepers pay only \$110.00 for the Nuc

Send \$25.00 downpayment for each unit to:

Black River Apiaries

W 11792 Bush Road

Black River Falls, WI 54615

- Contact info: no phone

Bees

- Italians will lay eggs heavily up till late fall...they make great colonies if you send them out west.
- Italians will eat food stores fast if kept here for winter
- Question posed which type of bee is best-lots of opinions.
- good discussion on the timeline of getting package bees and wanting to build up the colony so they will have a good population of foraging.
- When is the right time to start the bees on pollen patties...answer is to start now to just give them encouragement...but don't overdo it. No sugar water right now.

Advice from experienced to novice beekeepers

- take your Benadryl to the bee yard with you
- if you get hives, use an ice pack on them.
- If you don't know how you will react to a bee sting, it is important to take your phone, and if you are by yourself, make sure to tell someone where you are going and approximate return time.
- If in doubt, go see a doctor
- someone mentioned that they always have duct tape with them to cover any little hole a bee may be able to enter
- do not use perfume, cologne or strong odors....bees don't like it

Jim Burritt

- Would like even more bee samples if anyone is interested in doing so.

Jenny Gruber

- Jenny is interested in researching good native plants for promoting pollinators.
- She is wondering if there is any interest in forming a sub-committee to help gather any information and bring back to members.
- She is also looking for a good source for native plant seeds for mass planting.
- Jenny will be sending a mass email out inquiring about any interest from members.

There was a drawing for a free nuc from Rushfeldt Apiary.
Winner was Jeff McCalla

Attendance = 48