Minutes OSBA Board Meeting May 17, 2020

Peggy Garnes, President  X  Tom Rathbun, Vice-President
Tim Arheit, Secretary  X  Rod Prichard, Treasurer  X
Joe Heider, Crossroads  X  Rick Blessing, Crossroads
Don Crock, Buckeye Hills  X  Open, Buckeye Hills
Nina Bagley, Heart of Ohio  X  Will Merrill, Heart of Ohio  X
, Heart of Ohio  , Top of Ohio
Linda Miller, Erie Basin  X  Sonny Ward, Erie Basin  X
Jamie Walters, Maumee Valley  X  Roger Myers, Maumee Valley  X
Alex Zomcheck, Miami Valley  X  Rich Stewart, Miami Valley  X
Kelly Morse, Ohio Valley  X  Jim Hopkins, Ohio Valley  X
Dwight Wells, Top of Ohio  X  Dan Braden, Top of Ohio  X
Allyson May, Western Reserve  X  Greg Bokan, Western Reserve
Terry Lieberman-Smith, Past President

Also present  Doug Stanton, Master Beekeepers Program Chair, Jeannie Same, EAS Representative

Meeting was called to order at 7:00PM

Secretary’s report (Tim Arheit):
See attached

President’s Report (Peggy Garnes):

Most of my meetings have been canceled due to COVID and many local associations aren’t tech savvy and aren’t holding virtual meetings. I have been doing more facebook posts.

I was asked if OSBA keeps track of swarm counts so we may want to do a survey at the end of the season.

I have reached out to several people at the Farm Bureau to help establish a better relationship with that group. I’m also hopeful we can collaborate with the Pollinator Habitat Initiative, they had a very good webinar.

We have not heard anything from the state on when meetings, fairs or other events can be held.

The postal inspector determined the junk mail board members and others are receiving is fraud as it claims to be coming from OSBA or other businesses.

Tom Rathburn is out sick. He is working on taking over the affiliate newsletter and I meet with him on a weekly basis.
Treasurer’s Report (Rod Prichard):

I have been traveling so there is no written report.

Current balances
   Checking: 130,284.21
   Debit-Account: 722.05
   CD: 38,561.92
   Savings: 4653.81

Note that QuickBooks is showing a different amount due to some double entries from the bank statement import. That will be cleaned up.

I am checking on the feasibility of getting a storage unit for storing records and the cheapest I found was 5x5 at 22/month. I’d also like to look into digitizing the records to have a more permanent record.

I’m also investigating some managed IT services as well as getting our own Zoom account.

Peggy asked for the balance numbers to be sent to the secretary for inclusion in the meeting minutes (not yet received at of 6/21)

Committee Reports:

Newsletter Committee (Jamie Walters)
See attached

Anyone can participate. Please submit your articles and info on time.

New Beekeeper Outreach (Kelly Morse)
See attached

Traveling Speaker Update (Joe Heider)
See attached

We are planning on doing a number of virtual Zoom meetings/presentations since in person meetings are not occurring.

Jamie Walters noted that the majority of beekeepers do not know who their director or rep is. We have not been receiving reports from many local associations. Jamie will send out a reminder email to the general membership.

Affiliate Program (Tom Rathburn, not present)

Tom is going to be working on content for the affiliate newsletter. He is also working with one group to apply to the program.
Fair Committee (Nina Bagley)
Everything is prepared but we are waiting to see if the fair is going to happen. My expectation is that it will not happen.

Fall Conference (Peggy Garnes)
We are looking at how we may run the fall conference in a virtual form. It may not be possible to hold a large event at a school, even in November. We will need to investigate how to hold a virtual annual meeting and how voting will be handled. Based on the attorney’s memo, it is possible to hold a virtual meeting given appropriate notice and a method to participate in the meeting.

Tim Arheit noted that we will need to decide early enough to plan the meeting, and so that we don’t have to deal with refunding 100’s of attendees and the cost we will incur on those refunds. In addition we have already had some speakers say they will not be coming and there will likely be others that may not, or should not be at such an event.

The board’s consensus is that the committee should research the options and will make the call if the event will be in-person or virtual. We will need to determine if any presentations can be recorded and shared after the event. This may be on a case by case event. The committee will need to determine what to charge for the event.

4 H (Jamie Walters)
At present the judging that fair will still happen but there will be changes to socially distance the applicants.

Reminders have been sent out to the 4-H students for their quarterly updates. Thanks to the directors that have been working with the students.

Education (Jamie Walters)
We have started doing regular webinars and have moved the registration from facebook to our website. We have many good speakers lined up for the next several months. See Facebook and our website for the schedule.

Master Beekeeping (Peggy Garnes)
We are looking for a new chair. We have had a few people show interest in helping, but don’t want to be the chair. Please let me know if anyone is interested.

Old Business/New Business

Suggestion box. There was discussion how to handle the spam from the suggestion box. There was concern that simply removing the page wouldn’t solve the problem and wouldn’t allow members to submit legitimate questions.

Don Crock made the motion to take the Suggestion Box down and replaced with an email the message we are looking for a better solution.
Second by Will Merrill. All voted in favor. Motion carries.

Peggy asked for any suggestions to post to the facebook page.

Will Merril motions to adjourn, 2nd by Dwight wells. All voted in favor.

Meeting adjourned 8:30PM
OSBA Board Meeting

May 17, 2020    7 pm (1 hour 30 minutes)

Zoom Meeting – Check email for link From Jamie

Agenda

Call to Order

  Welcome, Mission Statement, Attendance (quorum)

Changes/Additions to Agenda

Approval of Minutes, Secretary Report (Monthly News/Correspondence)

Reports:  President, Vice-President, Treasurer

Committee Updates

Old/New Business:

  Suggestion Box

  Master Beekeeping Program Chair search

  Web Server search

Other Business:  Facebook

Motion to Adjourn
Secretary's Report

Current Membership

Life Members 294
Paid Members 798
Trial Members 508
Total 1600

Trial membership is low again this year, most likely due to COVID canceling many of the later classes and I believe we are still waiting on rosters from some classes that were held.

Paid membership is lower than what it should be as I have yet to receive any of the renewals sent in from the membership mailing. The unrenewed 2019 members were dropped, per the constitution, in March and I am concerned that any who did send in renewals, and any new members who mailed in membership did not receive the newsletter, and any who sign up for the swarm list will not be included on our website. The last time we had such a delay in recording membership, we had to extend a free year to the affected members.

DVD

Except for what DVD’s exist in the event boxes, we are now out of DVDs. A decision to order more or discontinue them will need to be made. Should we discontinue them we should notify Walter T Kelly and any other that are selling them so they can remove them from their catalogues.

Website

Jamie Walters reached out with a date/time for website training and we held a brief training session a week ago. It was fairly short as he already has experience with wordpress so we only needed go to over the OSBA specific items. I’m still waiting on any others that may want training on the website.

We have had 2 complaints in regards to the website, both pertaining to the swarm list. One claimed that when clicking on the county map, the county of ‘Alger’ was returned. I was unable to replicate the issue and Alter isn’t a county in Ohio. The other complaint was that beekeepers who are not members showed up on the swarm list. Again, I could not replicate and since the swarm list is populated by our membership list, I don’t see how such a thing is possible. Any problems you encounter should be reported to webmaster@ohiostatebeekeeper.org with as much detail as possible.
Newsletter Committee Meeting Minutes 4/5/2020

CTO 7:00

Present were Jamie Walters, Peggy Garnes, Jeannie Saum, Nina Bagley, and Kelly Morse.

Feedback- Jamie Walters provided comments sent from our readers, which were very good overall. One individual stated that they “read it from cover to cover after taking it out of the mailbox”. Many positive comments were received by Jamie and we are committed to addressing the areas where improvement is needed such as obtaining more club news.

Advertising- Nina has outdone last year’s advertising numbers, update requests will go out in 2 weeks for the next edition.

New features- including a word search and a kid’s corner compiled by Nina Bagley, and “Find the Bee” game were well received. Many people appreciated the new look and the inclusive direction we are embracing.

Club News- Jeff Gabric resigned following this issue going to print. Kelly will undertake this and continue to attempt to get more club participation. She submitted requests to the individual clubs through her contact list from New Beekeeper Outreach and Peggy provided a newly updated contact list to assist in this endeavor to be more inclusive of all the clubs throughout the state. This information needs to come from the people at club level who are familiar with their activities and goings on. We continue to need ALL photos have accompanying captions and signed releases. We rely on the OSBA Regional Directors and Representatives to compile the submissions and appreciate their efforts.

Newsletter emails vs. printed- The current Snail Mail list is 328. People may not be aware that the email version is all color while the print only has color on the front and back covers. The Snail Mail Committee will continue to attempt to reduce this but most individuals have been contacted directly and indicated that they will not convert.

Articles- Jeannie attended the Dropbox training and she has a streamlined process for proofreading comments in the editor’s draft edition.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:42pm

Respectfully submitted by Kelly Morse
New Beekeeper Outreach: Kelly J Morse, Jim Hopkins May 2020

Action Completed:

1. All Welcome boxes were sent- some will be utilized later as classes were cancelled due to the epidemic. Since all sent materials have now been updated, especially the Best Management Practices, they will transition into the future without problem. The Varroa Guide is to be updated by the HBHC in July but the updates will be minor.

2. Kelly has uploaded all free membership names submitted to date.

3. 1500 students were served this year, an increase of 200 from last year.

4. Mass emails were sent to students regarding ADK availability for improving hive monitoring skills among these new beekeepers.

Action Required:

1. Continued outreach to Clubs for class lists not yet submitted. **We ask the OSBA board members to reach out to their local leadership.**

2. Input of student rosters to the database is ongoing as they are received.

3. Extensive revision, clarification and updating of SOP for this committee to reflect what we have learned.

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**Traveling Speaker update**

The Traveling Speaker Program is moving forward with Zoom meetings until further notice. Most of the traveling speakers have agreed to use zoom due to the Covid 19 pandemic to educate beekeepers all over Ohio. The first meeting by Zoom is scheduled for May 27th for Tri County Beekeepers on queen rearing.

Allyson May has scheduled a few meetings before the stay at home order. Those clubs that have requested a Traveling Speaker will be contacted to see if they want to proceed with a Zoom meeting.

Submitted by

Joe Heider