

Ohio State Beekeepers Association Board Meeting
May 15, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by Terry Lieberman-Smith, Vice-President.

In Attendance: Tom Rathburn, Dwight Wells, Dwight Wilson, Joe Kovaleski, , Mike Doseck, Peggy Garnes, Richard Manley, Angel Mitchel, Tim Arheit, Terry Lieberman-Smith, Annette Birt Clark, Michele Colopy.

Treasurer report presented by Michele. We have a total of \$60,711.42 on deposit between checking and savings. Michele found that we as a non-profit club were not registered with the Attorney General's office. Michele was able to supply appropriate documentation and avoid any fines.

Mike questions whether or not affiliate clubs will need to register with Attorney General's office. Michele explains that this is not necessary for affiliate clubs unless the club is also an established non-profit entity. In that case, yes, the club must register with the Secretary of State and with the Attorney General's office.

Michele reminds all board members to complete and submit reimbursement and expense forms even if they are donating mileage. These "in kind" support is important "income" for the club when applying for grant funding.

Please, submit forms as soon as possible after the event. Details can be forgotten over time and this leads to missed opportunities for the OSBA and/or the board member.

Terry reminds the board of the quarterly check which OSBA receives from Ohio Prairie Nursery from seed sales. An idea for 2017 is to keep these funds separate from the general fund and use them as part of a grant program to assist organizations, clubs, individuals, or whoever with financing seeds for pollinator habitat. Matching funds could be solicited from corporate or local partners. Something to consider and discuss further for more details.

The first Strategic Planning Meeting of the OSBA will be held on November 4, 2016 in Plain City, OH at the Tolles Career Technical Center. This meeting is mandatory for board members. The meeting will be held at 7:00pm and will be 1 – 1.5 hours in length.

Projects, plans, grants and the future of OSBA will be discussed. Please, gather your ideas and bring them. Please, feel free to send ideas for the agenda to the board in advance. A face to face meeting with a more open forum is the idea. As a statewide organization we need to continue to generate active programs throughout the state for the benefit of beekeepers.

Hotel stay for Friday night will be reimbursed for up to \$100.00 per board member. You may stay at the hotel of your choice. We will be sending out more information about lodging options and the reimbursement process.

Tim reminds board of the resignation of Larry Potter in the Heart of Ohio. Thank you to Larry for his service to the OSBA. We have this and a few other holes that still need to be filled on our board. Without these members we do not know what is happening in these regions of the state. We need active board members. Thank you to all who are fulfilling their duties as elected and assigned officers.

Tim comments that we do have IRS approval for our Affiliate Program. The executive board is in the process of completing documentation for any club who wish to participate to understand and easily follow the application process. Insurance pricing has been a slow turn around and Michele is now looking to alternate sources for quotes. Tim has received inquiries from several clubs already.

Terry explains that the Apiary Diagnostic Kit (ADK) beta test is moving forward. The hardware will be ordered this week. Each member of the committee will select 8-9 beekeepers from their area of the state with of varying degrees of experience to be participants.

Terry and Michele remind the board how important for OSBA Facebook post sharing is for our exposure to all beekeepers and the public at large. Sharing a post from OSBA's Facebook page is easy. It is instant content building for a local clubs Facebook page. Our posts are available for local clubs to add value to their members and followers. Please, take the time to share a post from OSBA's Facebook page now. Please, encourage your local club leadership to take advantage of this time and effort saving way to boost their content and attract more followers and/or club members.

Michele gives update on Ohio Pollinator Week events in Cleveland (Cleveland Botanical Gardens), Columbus (Franklin Conservancy) and now Dayton. The Cincinnati zoo backed out late in the process, but the Dayton Audubon Nature Center will be a terrific place for the event. We are expecting from 600-900 people to attend each event.

The Honey Queen and/or the Honey Princess will be at each event. There will be various interactive exhibitor tables including representation by OSBA. Scott's is co-sponsoring the events with Pollinator Stewardship Foundation. State legislators and local politicians have been invited to attend.

Stickers are being considered and will be ordered for these and other events including the Ohio State Fair. Tim will send out draft of sticker and pricing.

Tim comments that the swarm removal link on the web site is underrepresented in some counties of the state. New this year is the member only parameter for participation on the OSBA Swarm Removal list. Please, reach out to local clubs and let them know that any of their members who are also OSBA members are welcome to offer their services on our website.

Terry informs the board the one of our new members, Chris Dresel, has volunteered to create a Honeybee Transport Incident Emergency Response Plan. The Turnpike (80),

I-71 and I-70 are major transport routes for moving bees for pollination and package bee delivery. At this time Ohio has not plan in the case of an accident. This would be a proactive step by OSBA, a statewide organization, to offer a plan for Ohio to mitigate impact to the community and preservation of all bees as possible. This keeps things positive for migratory services. There will likely be an outreach to local clubs for joint efforts of beekeepers. We need an alternative to the fire department coming out and just foaming the entire truck.

Joe comments that he spoke to the local bee inspector and found that 4-5 semi trucks a week stop off to rest at plazas on the turnpike. There are bees everywhere as the nets are not properly fastened or custom to the truck as they should be. This is the haulers responsibility, but most are not beekeepers. Ohio does not inspect honeybee livestock trucks at the border, thus there no enforcement of honeybee containment for public safety. Kim Flottum has sent many letters to the state to correct this oversight. This is an ODA challenge. Hopefully, one that can be addressed in the near future.

Tom comments that there is a fellow in Erie county working on a similar emergency plan for the turnpike. He and Chris should get in contact and work together. There may need to be two separate plans for political reasons. One for the state and one for the turnpike. Terry will send Tom Chris's contact information.

Terry informs the board that last year the OSBA applied for an ODA Specialty Block Grant, but the club was not selected to receive any funding. We are putting together another grant proposal for submission this year. The focus is the ADK, educational training on the ADK and short film educational segments for the use of the ADK. The goal of the ADK is to increase monitoring hives for mite loads. Understanding the problem exists allows the beekeeper to make choices about action to keep their hive healthy. If we are successful we are looking at a partnership with local clubs and 2017 newbees, film segments will be funded, paid instructors will be available as guest speakers for local clubs. We will know by our next board meeting if OSBA was awarded any funds. The disbursement will begin in September. We are requesting \$35,000.00.

Dwight Wilson comments that the fall announcement for the 4-H scholarship partnership for 2017 is a great idea. Tim comments that this will definitely happen, likely in August. Peggy suggests that we start getting the information out at the Ohio State Fair. We can then set a submission date for applications. Tim comments that the Executive Board will discuss the program and finalize the 2017 program details in the next 6 weeks.

The stickers previously mentioned will be available to local clubs for purchase. Scissors may be needed to cut them apart. If available, order them with perforations so they are easy to tear off. Folks may want to take them home instead of putting them on their clothing at the event. Mike, Dwight Wells and Peggy are definitely interested in a roll of the new stickers when they become available.

Michele comments that anyone who gets stickers needs to keep track of how many they got and where they passed them out. We as an organization need to be measuring our

outreach and impact in the community. Metrics give us legitimacy, voice and a seat at the table when the community knows who we are and why we exist. They allows us to display our footprint in a logical manner.

Peggy puts forth a motion to adjourn the meeting. Terry seconds. All in favor. Motion carries. Meeting is adjourned at 7:58pm.

Thank you all for your attendance.