



Haywood County Beekeepers Chapter

Board Meeting Minutes

February 06, 2018

Opening Ceremony

At 6:07 p.m. on Tuesday, February 06, 2018, President Rick Queen called to order the quarterly meeting of the Haywood County Beekeepers Board of Directors at the Haywood County Extension Center, 589 Raccoon Road, Waynesville, NC 28786.

Officers present: President-*Rick Queen*, Vice-President-*Rich Byers*, Treasurer- *Cynthia Schwartz*, Secretary-*Cindy Way*, Director-*Spencer Huggins*, Director-*Al Edwards*, Director-*Rudie Bax*, Webmaster-*David Zachary*, and Honorary Director-*Bill Skelton*.

Previous Minutes

Secretary Cindy Way stated that this is her first Board Meeting and that no minutes are available from the previous meeting of the Board of Directors, at which time Vicky Morrison was club secretary.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Cynthia Schwartz presented a current financial report and reported that the Club has \$812.78 in checking and \$1,472.61 in savings.

Old Business

Treasurer Cynthia Schwartz reported that 2018 membership forms for State memberships have been sent to the North Carolina State Beekeepers Association; however, due to an address change and a change in the person handling membership applications at the State level, there are outstanding checks that were sent in November and December of 2017 and January of 2018 which have not been cashed by the State Beekeepers Association. There are 18 applications that have not been processed by the North Carolina Beekeepers Association.

Cynthia placed a call to the State Beekeepers Association regarding this issue; however, no one has responded yet.

New Business

MINUTES: A question was raised regarding if our Constitution and By-Laws mandate that minutes be taken for our regular monthly meetings. The Constitution and By-Laws do require that detailed minutes be taken for Board Meetings and special meetings but do not require minutes for regular meetings. Previous secretaries elected to take notes for regular meetings, although not required to do so.

A discussion was held regarding whether or not we feel it is necessary to make minutes available to all members by using a recording device and posting the recording to our web

site. There is not a large volume of people viewing minutes on our web site, which led to questions regarding the need for a recording device and the cost.

Bill Skelton cautioned that we would need to seek permission from presenters to record their presentations.

A decision was made to table this issue and present it to Club members during tonight's regular meeting, which is scheduled to follow this Board Meeting.

MOUNTAIN HERITAGE FESTIVAL is scheduled for July 14, 2018. There is no charge for craftsman booths but there is a required fee for vendor booths. Applications are due May 31, 2018. Rich Byers will submit an application for the Club for an educational booth and will ask for volunteers.

APPALACHIAN LIFESTYLE CELEBRATION. The Club hopes to participate in this event again this year. The event is held on Main Street and is usually held in June. We will discuss this event further as more information becomes available.

BEE CITY USA: Beth Sain presented information she gathered regarding what is required to become a Bee City. Bee City USA was founded in Asheville, NC. A second Bee City USA was established on the west coast and more Bee Cities have been formed around the country.

A Bee City must be a nonprofit organization. Most are forming a sub-committee of another club. Our Club could be a sub-committee and pay a fee. Bee City supports the city's pollinator quality. Fees are based on a sliding scale of approximately \$200.00 - \$300.00, and the Club would ask for sponsors. Beth will delay obtaining further information until we get an idea of the Club's interest. Another option would be pollinator areas more locally situated within our County.

Bill Skelton made a motion, which was seconded by Al Edwards, nominating Bill Skelton, Beth Sain, and David Zachary as a committee to research this issue further. Motion carried.

PLANT HAYWOOD PROJECT: Rick Queen opened discussion regarding the idea of a Plant Haywood Project, which might be re-named at a later time. Al Edwards will chair a committee to coordinate with the ASCS office's conservation reserve program, which might pay farmers to plant acreage for honey bees and other pollinators. We also hope to get the Master Gardeners program involved. Pollinator plants of interest include Dutch white clover, buckwheat, coneflowers and zinnias.

PUBLIX: Rich Byers plans to contact Elizabeth Teague to inquire if Publix would be interested in incorporating bee-friendly plants in the landscape of the new Publix store to be built in Waynesville, if it's not too late in their landscape planning stage.

YOUTH BEEKEEPERS: Rick Queen opened a discussion regarding getting youth involved in beekeeping through 4-H and schools, including home-schooled students, and the possibility of the Club giving away a package of bees or a five-frame nuc to get kids of suitable age interested in beekeeping. Spencer Huggins offered to donate some equipment. Students would need to be mentored to ensure they maintain an interest in

moving forward with beekeeping. Rudie Bax is willing to chair this committee. Rich Byers and Rick Queen will assist.

NEW BEEKEEPERS: Rick Queen has spoken with new beekeepers who have stopped attending our meetings because they felt like the subject matter of the monthly meetings is too advanced for beekeepers at the beginning level. The Board voted in favor of opening the doors at 6:30 p.m. for monthly meetings so that new beekeepers may arrive early to ask questions and receive instruction for half an hour before the regular meeting begins. Also, instructions will be provided on special topics. For the March 2018 meeting, the early session topic will pertain to assembling equipment. For April 2018, the early session topic will pertain to feeding methods.

Closing Ceremony

David Zachary made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Rudie Bax. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Cindy G. Way, *Secretary*