

February 2, 2015

PCBA General Meeting

Allmendinger Hall, WSU Puyallup

Order was called at 7:30 p.m. Present were board members Franclyn Heinecke, Alisa Shorey, Scott Larson, Michael DeAngelo, Jeff Jones, Renzy Davenport, Larry Golden, Marge Pearson, and Bob Pietila. There were also many members in attendance.

Business

President Franclyn Heinecke talked about two bills moving through the state legislature; one that would extend all the rights and responsibilities of "Farmers" to Beekeepers and the other to do with forage. Franclyn also talked about Legislative Day on March 5, 2015.

Election of Secretary. The previous secretary resigned and since there are no procedures in the PCBA bylaws, the President requested an oral vote from the general members on a new secretary, Scott Larson – Motion, 2nd and Approved/Elected.

Other:

- Apiary day has been moved to March 21, 2015.
- June 20th kicks off Proctor Market Pollinator Day, there is also a related event being held at UPS during this time though details are still being worked out.
- The club is still in need of volunteers including mentors, a Honey Queen, a librarian and someone in charge of room setup.

Treasurer's Report

Michael DeAngelo presented on the audit of the clubs book and what the club has spent money during 2014 and where that money has come from. (See the 2014 Treasurer's Report for more detail) Some of the highlights of 2014 include:

- A onetime expense for the renovation of the Honey House
- Details regarding the costs of maintaining the Apiary and Fair expenses
- Education expenses including Honey Queens
- Onetime expense for additional chairs for Allmendinger Hall
- Most income comes from membership dues. The annual Auction also generates a large portion of the club's income

Main Discussion – Treatment Free

The main event of the evening was a started with the viewing of a Ted Talk by Marla Spivak about why bees are disappearing. Bob Smith of the Olympia Beekeepers continued the discussion his bees which he hasn't treated with medication for 7 years. Bob indicated that his core philosophy was that better bees shouldn't need medication, and the only way to get better bees is to let the weaker colonies die off. Bob was followed by a panel discussion that included Bob Smith, Jeff Jones, Harvard Robbins, Alisa Shorey and Jim McCaig moderated by Michael DeAngelo. The panel covered a wide spectrum from preemptively treat the bees to avoid diseases to do nothing other than manage their physical environment. The discussion was good and exposed members, especially newer beekeepers, to the wide variety of philosophies on how to keep bees. These beekeepers have been successfully keeping bees for many years and Bob did a good job summing the options up when he said that the bees don't care what you do, the beekeeper has to decide for themselves.