

BGES June 3, 2017 Meeting Ag Station, Belle Haven, VA

Ann Snyder, our president welcomed the 20 members who came together for the monthly BGES meeting. For family reasons, our guest speaker, George Waldenmeyer was unable to attend, however we held a lively session among ourselves.

Carol Zuccarino gave a summary of the minutes and Phil Harris reported \$1,354.67 in out treasury. Next we heard from the Committees:

**Program:** Mary Walker

Mary explained that this was the last formal meeting for the year and in September we will concentrate on the importance of making splits. Doing this re sets the mite population and gives new life to hives. We might be able to supply the new beekeeping class with local healthy bees. If any of the members have a topic they'd like to present or to hear, please contact Mary Walker.

**Outreach:** Tara Southard

Tara gave a summary of the outreach activities she had orchestrated or participated in totaling 10 sessions. Tara will work with George Brown and Russell Vreeland to have a 20 minute program that will be ready to go for clubs wanting Bee information. We hope more folks will volunteer to help out on this important branch of our beekeeping club.

**Nominating:** George Brown

George related that the committee had worked hard to supply nominations for a new Board of Directors. Everyone is so busy and it was not easy to have our members come forth. However he presented a new slate of officers: He, himself, George Brown is willing to take the place of Ann Snyder as president. Ann has agreed to assist him as vice-president. Carol will remain for one more year as secretary and Phil Harris will also keep the seat of treasurer.

Mary Walker moved that we accept the slate of officers and affirmation was acclaimed by all.

Henning Pedersen introduced himself as having had bees in Connecticut and now was here on the shore.

We learned quite a lot from Richard Davis who has been here on the ESVA for 13 years working for Littleman Tomato Growers family farms. His workers farm from Eastville to Parksley on 23 farms from as small as 40 acres to as large as 400 acres. They ground spray their crops regularly from the 3rd week in April to mid-October. H wants to develop a cooperative arrangement with BGES to find a way to notify beekeepers of their spraying activities. He is interested to know the GPS of our hives. We had a long discussion with good questions and answers.

Old Business:

Ann asked us to note the Swarm list and Mentor List is on the web site.

In light of what we learned about crop spraying, please be sure Bob Good has your hive coordinates listed.

Dues will be due for the coming year next month.

New Business:

Tara has a map where she would like us to mark our hives. She will bring it to the next meetings.

Matt Cormons is interested in promoting "Do Not Mow" zones and promoting wild flowers. Let him know if you are interested in joining his efforts.

Ann announced that on Saturday, October 7, we will meet in Chincoteague.

Also we are going to have our Picnic this year inside at Little Italy! The date is July 29 and the fun begins at 5 o'clock. You will be hearing from us soon with more details. We will have pizza and salads and honey desserts.

Tara agreed to help Russell set up a Demonstration Hive at the Ag Center.

With some of the BGES funds, Carol purchased Honey B Healthy and members can get a small supply to add to the sugar syrup as a stimulant to honey production. Ann said we are going to purchase an electric extractor for members use along with candle making molds.

Our meeting adjourned at 12 noon and many folks stayed on continuing the conversations.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Zuccarino