BEEKEEPERS GUILD OF THE EASTERN SHORE - BGES

MINUTES JANUARY 13th, 2024

Meeting was held at the Tasley Firehouse

Meeting was called to order at 10:07 am by President Tara Southard. There were 20 people in attendence. Two new members joined and one member paid dues. Welcome aboard **James (Jim) and Melissa Dooley of Cape Charles.**

List of officers
Tara Southard - President
Chris Kutyla - Vice President
Tia Bell - Secretary
Sandra Scher - Treasure
Art Vancil - Social Media
George Brown – Webmaster
*New – Mentorship Program Managers – Suzane Omrod and David Schmidt

President Tara opened up the meeting with the following:

- Please grab coffee and a donut if you wish
- Happy New Year to everyone
- We went around the room and did some introductions and asked how many hives and where they lived.
- Our Volunteer for the VSBA will be Kevin Willis, Congrats and thank you for stepping up
- Minutes from the Oct 2023 meeting were read by Tia Bell
- **TREASURES REPORT**: by Tara: Current balance held in the bank account is: $2164.36 plus an extra $75 that Tara has along with the $40 collected in dues today
- Tara personally thanked the members that attened the Ag Fair on Oct 7th, Niall, Ann, Sandy, Sandra and Kevin Willis. Huge Success! Lots of interest and the kids loved the observation hive
- Review of the BK Class in Nov, the comments and suggestions
    - They wanted to see a frame close up
    - What is 80% full?
    - Niall's presentation sparked a lot of questions and comments
    - Provide more first year experiences from first year beekeepers
    - The 2nd day was more informative and the 1st
    - Start the class at 10am vice 8:30am
    - Create a Glossary of Terms

        - Have the class in January vice Nov. We discovered that Nov. is a very busy month with festivals, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving etc.
        - Having a smaller class (11) seemed to work better and more one on one
    - Tara suggests we order a 50 lb bag of dry pollen for club members Ultra Bee High Protein Pollen Substitute Dry Feed, 40 lb | Mann Lake Ltd.
    - Tia will bring in a moisture board at the Feb. meeting
    - Niall, Kevin and Suzanne attened the conference in Williamsburg and Niall and Kevin are going to discuss what they learned and their experience (attached is the program with all the key note speakers so you can research them and their presentations) Very successful conference and they were all glad they went.
    - Download the beecheck map on your phone to register the location of your hives or you can do it on your computer. BeeCheck VA - BeeCheck Home – Tia added her hive after the meeting, very easy to do.
    - 10 Frame Moisture Board | Mann Lake Ltd. – Moisture board
    - Wax Moth Larvicide B402 Certan | Betterbee – Wax moth preventative

Upcoming plans for 2024:

- Saturday February 10th @ 10am - 12pm – Barrier Island Center & ZOOM, Chris will work on speaker
- Saturday March 9th @ 10am – Guest speaker to be Jane McKinley w/ Master Gardeners.
- April - Open Hive Day – Location TBD
- May - Nothing Yet
- June – Club picnic

The meeting was adjorned at 12:05pm

If you want to be a member of the VA State Beekeepers Association, please send a $10 check to:

VSBA
201 Bluebird Lane
Charlotte Court House, VA 23923