# BEEKEEPERS GUILD OF THE EASTERN SHORE - BGES

# MINUTES Tuesday May 14th, 2026 at 6:00pm

The meeting was held at the Parksley Regional Library in Parksley VA and called to order at 6:00 pm by President Niall Finnegan. There were 20 members / guests in attendance and 1 on zoom.

**List of officers – 2024-25 year**
Niall Finnegan – President
Kevin Willis – Vice President
Tia Bell – Secretary
Denise Lynn – Treasurer
George Brown – Webmaster
Art Vancil – Social Media
Mentorship Program Managers Northampton Cty – Suzanne Omrod and David Schmidt

- Prior to the meeting starting, Tara gave everyone a sample of something she found in her yard called Ribwort plantain, a natural remedy for bee stings. Thank you Tara.
- Niall opened the meeting with:
    - A motion to accept the April minutes as written, accepted by all, no Nay's.
- Treasures report -our checking account balance = $3559.16 with $60.00 in petty cash.
- Old Business:
    - Arbor Day event at ANEC was a success. Great idea to make up goodie packages before the event to make them easier to hand out to the kids. We had a honey display, the observation hive, Niall got some dogwood trees. Many people asked about where to get local honey. The farmers market in Onancock may still have the BGES listed as having a table set up for any club member that wants to sell their honey/products. Niall will call and ask to make sure that is still in place.
    - Executive Board Meeting: Niall gave a brief overview since the minutes went out to all. Discussed the mentorship program and how it needs to be on the mentee to determine who they can call in their local area to help them. *see the BGES Ex. Meeting minutes for the full details
    - T-Shirt order: We have enough orders now to place the order. Would like to have them ready for the picnic in September, so no rush to get them in. The company is fairly quick about getting them made and shipped.
    - Paraquot: Niall discussed the Paraquat herbicide bill that goes before the VA Senate in January. Denise and Niall are working with the VA State Beekeepers Association to support passage of the bill (HB1375).
- New Business:
    - Picnic will be Sept. 12th this year due to George and Donna's availability after their trip.
    - John Wirsing has 12 acres and shared that he would love for someone to bring hives to his property, 757-332-0869 text or call to discuss
    - Denise shared: Lynn Allison, Wyatt House B&B 11261 Johnsontown Rd 757-442-1300 would also like to have someone bring bees to her property.
- Tia shared the story of Tim and Mickey Palmer. We had a show and tell of a new type of swarm box entrance folding landing pad. Tara also shared how to use a shepherd's hook with ½ gallon milk jug to keep water in your bird bath for the bees.
- Niall turned the floor over to Russell Vreeland to discuss all kinds of pheromones and how they affect the hive. Another Wonderful presentation given, thank you Russell.
- Meeting was concluded at 8:00pm

Zoom Link if you wish to watch the meeting if you missed it.

Shareable link:
https://zoom.us/rec/share/5s1v5gqkDs7eL-d8bMopcIdOweWmXue45gSfdOIeTvQJT1EQhgMiff7gv1CjqbXI.f5vdH06Dwlha7BL4
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