

Minutes of New River Valley Beekeepers' Association

September 8th 2016

26 people present

Meeting called to order by Jim Hill at 6:35

Minutes of last month's meeting accepted.

Treasurer's report accepted

Old Business:

Extractor management has been taken over by Jim Hill, Bob Whiton, and Richard Reid – Sue Hossack pointed out that it is taking three people to take over the job she was doing alone! She explained that there are online forms for ordering all the association equipment – extractors, child suits, observation hives etc. <https://nrvba.org/nrvba-roster/for-members-only/>

Boy scouts have requested a presentation in November, but this is probably too cold for the observation hive.

Discussion of teaching hive: Brian Murphy handed around a set of large photos he had purchased from Mann Lake – (# BM270 – cost around \$35-\$45), these are the sort of photos that are used in the teaching hive. The Association does have a teaching hive and it can be reserved online.

Top bar hive for the Association beeyard – nothing new to report.

Honey house: Lynn Tobias and Jim Hill met with honey house committee for a fact gathering phase – a community kitchen is being proposed for the old Prices Fork school building. It has been sold to Joe Fortier of Taylor Hollow

Report on past field days:

#1 had problems with EFB earlier. It has been requeened. Did not get through. Probably robbed out. One from cutout doing well. #2,4 doing well. 6 underperforming.

Discussion on date of next field day, no date was finalized.

There was a discussion on whether the club should get a vaporizer or oxylic or formic acid to sell to members.

Oxalic acid comes in inexpensive crystals , you can get it as wood bleach from the hardware store, but as it is not labeled as pesticide, you should buy the correct item from a bee supplier.

MiteawayQuick Strips shouldn't be used if too hot since bees must be able to fan and spread fumes. Brian Murphy will bring his vaporizer to next field day to show people. Oxalic acid can burn off mouth parts if not diluted adequately.

New business:

Annual VT Bug Fest Oct 15th Volunteers needed. Free T-shirt and lunch will be provided.

Oct 1: Shawsville Fall Harvest Festival at Meadowbrook library

Spraying in SC for zika virus apparently caused a lot of bee deaths, Jim Hill will make calls

Mark Chorba– bee packages – the packages come from Georgia, there is likely to be a big demand , which means prices will probably go up

The business meeting ended at 7:32pm followed by a talk from Mark Chorba about AZ Beekeeping in Slovenia. The handouts from his talk are online at our website. Some contacts from the talk are below.

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Submitted by Sue Hossack