

Ashe County Beekeeping Association
Regular Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2015

1. Officers:
 - a. Harry Galer, Randy Baldwin, Joy Lewis, Fowler Bush and Doug Ehrhardt.
 - b. BOD members - Mike Haworth. Attendance 22
2. Agenda
 - a. Introductions
 - b. Survey regarding hive losses; ACBA dues
 - c. Joy Lewis - program announcements
 - d. Pass president responsibilities to Randy Baldwin
 - e. Presentation by Bee Aware
3. Comments by Harry
 - a. Enjoyed being president for the last two years.
 - b. Informal Survey - # of hive in fall and how many now...
 - c. Introduce Joy and comments:
 1. Each meeting - name tags so please let us know if you are new
 2. Mike Haworth a co-chair with Joy
 3. More hands on from the more experienced beekeepers
 4. Bob Cole started at age 6 in 1933. Teaching beekeeping since '81
 5. How many new attendees....4 persons ID'd
 6. With speakers, hope to have persons to answer Q&A
 7. Calendar
4. Introduction of Randy Baldwin - certified journeyman beekeeper
5. Comments by Randy
 - a. Teach a lot of classes...learn more from students
 - b. WCC - site of classes
 - c. Fall - journeyman (intermediate) education program
 - d. Intro of officers and BOD members:
 1. Doug Ehrhardt - secretary
 2. Fowler Bush - treasurer
 3. Joy Lewis - co-Program
 4. Helen Baldwin is VP and not here
 5. Mike Haworth - co-Program
6. T-shirts and caps support the association activities.
7. Website description and functions
8. Bee Aware
 1. Members: Jenny Fitzpatrick, Kate Fitzpatrick and Claudia Button of Bee Aware Science Team of Tynecastle Academy in Banner Elk
 2. Grant received from state for \$25K
 3. Funding cut to \$13.6K
 4. Idea to promote a NC license plate...better looking than others across the state
 5. Watauga County Beekeeping Association
 6. Need 500 registration requests to get the program started with the state

7. Team
 - a. Kate and Claudia
 - b. Christopher Columbus Foundation
 - c. Plight of bees
 - d. Awareness program
 - e. Visited schools and talked with over 1200 students
 - f. Chose school children as beginning audience as they carry info home to the parents and family.
 - g. Importance of honey bees.
 - h. Entered competition and won grant.
 - i. Created a "Save the Honey Bee" license plate. \$15, \$10 to state and rest to the programs at NC State and honeybee
 - j. Beginning an awareness habitat on Grandfather Mountain
 - k. Website www.beeawarenc.org
 - l. Have over 300, but need another 200 before 1 April
 - m. Talked it up in the NC Senate over a year ago...
 - n. Full background plate is more aesthetic and is considered to have a better shot.
 - o. The partner has to enter all 500 orders with funds to the state
 - p, Forms available for persons to take home and send in...
 - q. Franklin Co. is the other club looking to sponsor a plate.
 - r. Bee Aware club's activities:
 1. Building a bee scape
 2. Flow hive - don't have to get into hives to harvest honey
10. Sign in sheets - new members please include address, e-mail and phone #
11. Survey - 42% loss from those that shared info tonight
12. Certification review session on Saturday, May 2nd from 9-12. Reviewing for the test in the AM and will have a practical portion of review at 1:00 PM at Randy's bee yard. The test costs \$15 but includes a membership in the state association.
13. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.