

I. PBA President Walter McLendon called meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. 38 signed the register. New guests Pam & Bernard Perricone, Tamara Copeland, Ramona Bearden.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon, Treasurer, reported balance of \$7241.81, with some outstanding bills.

III. Apiary Report. Doyle Bruce, Apiary Manager: Presently 3 hives, down from 5 earlier. Pollen patties and sugar bricks have been put on hives. A work day will be scheduled to check hives and clean up boxes and equipment. Painting and repairs are necessary.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

1. President reported that ByLaws have not been followed. ByLaws will be printed and sent out to members for review and approval. Elections will need to be held, which should have been completed in November. A nomination committee will be chosen. Encouraged members to become an officer and/or Board member. Walter McLendon will prepare a yearly calendar, outlining scheduled events and procedures.

2. Volunteers are needed each month for club snacks and drinks at meetings.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

A. PBA Bee School for 2024: School will be held 2/17, 2/24, and 3/2 (bee yard) Classes to be held at TX A&M AgriLife Office. Need volunteers for teaching classes, setting up, snacks, cleaning up at end of day. Please let Rachel know if you can assist and when. Flyers and applications will be sent out. Please print and help circulate these to friends, local feed stores, library, etc.

B. Youth Program: This has been pending for several months, and a plan finalized and sent out to members for review. Rachel explained the basics of the program, cost, requirements, etc. Motion was made and seconded to accept the plan as written. Rachel will send out copies to members for circulation. Word of mouth and youth groups are the best communication route. Members asked to assist in promotion of youth program. Members willing to serve on Youth Committee to assist with programs should contact Rachel or a Board member.

C. PBA Yearly Audit: An audit of the Treasury books is completed annually by a committee appointed by the President. Committee consists of at least 2 members familiar with accounting procedures. An audit was scheduled for 6:00PM before the February 8, 2024 meeting. Don Lymbery offered to assist with audit.

D. Volunteers for Snacks/Drinks for February Meeting 2/8/24: Bob Love, Matt Steveson, Mike Hartman; Richard Peters: tea..

E. There was much interest in holding another queen rearing class in 2024. Rachel will check with Robert Jones on this.

F. Walter suggested starting a queen trading program in the future, where members could possibly trade queens with each other to diversify genetics.

Doyle offered prayer and snacks were enjoyed by all.

#### PROGRAM: Bob Love – Splitting Hives

- Plan ahead with Goal: decide if you are gaining bees, honey, selling bees.
- Begin feeding by Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> to help build up hives early. Begin checking hives in February
- Types of splits: walkaway split; regular split – can possibly split double box up to 4-6 times.
- Be sure to have eggs and larva in each box, pollen and feed. Walkaway split is easiest. As long as you have eggs in each box, bees will make a new queen for the queenless box.
- Bob puts old queen in the nuc box, queen cells in split. Or after 2 days, place new caged queen in splits.
- Various ways to split. Do what works for you.

DOOR PRIZES/ADJOURNMENT. Meeting concluded about 8:25 PM

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary