



York County Beekeepers Association

A Chapter of the Maine State Beekeepers Association

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Minutes of ZOOM Meeting on December 6, 2021

- 1) The ZOOM meeting was called to order at 6:28 P.M. by Vice President Joe Barberi. Twenty-three people attended the meeting including members of Sagadahoc County Beekeepers. Shout out to Colm Hull, son of YCBA member, Rob Hull, for his Maine STEM Film Challenge award winning video, “What is Honey” and to Rob Hull as a self-published author.
- 2) Speaker:
 - Karen Thurlow, Master Beekeeper, formerly of New Moon Apiaries in Yarmouth, Maine, now living in New Brunswick, Canada spoke on “Products in the Hive”.
 - Your bee hobby can support itself with comb honey, cut comb, creamed honey, gifts, pollen, nucs, and candles.
 - Comb honey (ross rounds) and cut comb are big dollar items from the hive but labor intensive which includes cutting, cleaning, packaging, and labeling. Spring is best for getting the bees to draw out ross rounds and produce new wax for cut comb. Karen mentions that bees produce the best comb honey with a young queen.
 - Creamed honey, lotions and lip balm are gifts that everyone likes to give or receive. The recipes are attached to this document.
 - Pollen is used by many people as a dietary supplement. If you are pollen trapping, the pollen needs to be collected in amounts that do not cause nutritional stress on the bees and collected daily.
 - Nucs are also “Products from the hive”. Every beekeeper should have one (1) nuc in the bee yard to supply, if needed, frames of eggs, extra nurse bees and drawn frames of comb. Selling complete nucs is also an option.
 - Candles made from beeswax are products that take time and experience to learn to make but are popular sale items. Karen emphasized wick size and burn time is very important and you should follow the manufacturer’s recommendations.
 - Crop pollination can also be lucrative.
 - Lastly, Karen was asked about hive ventilation....The latest controversial topic for beekeepers. She said there are many overwintering theories. In her area of New Brunswick upper entrances are open during the active season along with screened bottom boards whereas in winter the brood box holes and upper entrances are closed and solid bottom boards are used.
 - Thank you, Karen for such great information.

3) Officers' Reports:

- **Treasurer's Report:** Phyllis Mewer reported there is \$7,135.50 in the bank account. A motion was made by Rachelle McKenzie to accept the report and seconded by Valerie Cole Passed unanimously.
- **Secretary's Report:** Lynne Lincourt sent out the minutes by email prior to the meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as sent was made by Valerie Cole and seconded by Rachelle McKenzie. Passed unanimously.
- **Membership Director:** Lynne Gobeil reported there are currently 176 members. Membership renewals for next year are coming in. The googledocs form on the YCBA website will be/has removed and the paypal option is paused. Membership forms and dues need to be sent to Lynne Gobeil at 11 Cook Lane, Kennebunk, Maine 04043. The membership form will be revised this year.

4) Old Business:

- **Extractor Rentals-** Lynne Gobeil reported the manual hive at Joe Barberi's was rented out 3 times, the manual hive she's storing was rented out once and the electric extractor was rented out 10 times with the only problem being a blown fuse.
- **Sentinel Apiary Report-**Lynne Gobeil reported a successful first season participating in the Sentinel Apiary Program and she hopes to do it again in 2022. She also suggests other club beekeepers participate next season. A good learning experience for the participant and the assistants. Lynne G. sent a link to the group recapping all the apiaries' results.
- **Manuela Lorenzi-Kayser** has volunteered to maintain the club website and will be updating the website.
- **Valerie Cole** reported since the open hive in July there is \$149.95 in the Clynk account. If anyone needs bags and/or tags contact Valerie at weebifarm2016@gmail.com.
- **YCBA 2022 Calendar Update-**There are 8 calendars left. Wendy is interested in taking the remaining calendars to an event she is attending on December 19th.
- **The State Agricultural Show-** is January 11, 12, and 13, 2022 at the Augusta Civic Center. Rob and Colm Hull have expressed interest in going. *(since this meeting, a notice has been sent that the show will be virtual again this year)*

5) New Business:

- Election of Officers- Nominees were
Beth Goodwin-President
Joe Barberi- Vice President
Lynne Gobeil-Membership
Phyllis Mewer- Treasurer
Lynne Lincourt-Secretary

All were elected unanimously.

- **Rachelle McKenzie** was nominated by Valerie Cole to replace Beth Goodwin as a Member at large. It was seconded by David Lovell. The motion passed.
- **Lynne Gobeil** is interested in applying for the Maine Bee Wellness Scholarship for the Sentinel Apiary Program **in 2022**.
- **A motion** was made by Wendy Martineau that YCBA sponsor a scholarship for a member to participate in the Sentinel Apiary Program. The motion was seconded by Rachelle McKenzie. The motion passed. Anyone interested in the program talk with Lynne G.

- **YCBA Donation**-YCBA donated \$500 in 2021 to Bee Informed Partnership. Suggestions for 2022 donations will be taken up at the February 14, 2022 meeting.

6) Final Items

- **Joe Barberi** reported one or two YCBA hats are still available. Shirts are sold out.
- **Rob Hull** asked that the meeting schedule for 2022 be resent.
- **The** next meeting will be February 14, 2022 by Zoom.

- 7) The meeting was ended at 8:43.M by a motion to adjourn by Wendy Martineau and seconded by Valerie Cole.

Respectively submitted,
Lynne Lincourt, Secretary