

## GCBA Board Meeting Minutes

*February 21, 2018*

### **In Attendance:**

Allyson May                      Tony Indovina              Janice Maund              Gary Leasy  
Mark Vandyburg              Larry Theurer

### **Absent:**

Annette Birt Clark              Mike Gallagher

Meeting called to order: 7:15 PM

Meeting dismissed: 8:10 PM



Tony discussed his experience with Beeline Apiaries and Woodenware (based in Mendon, Michigan) as another resource for beekeepers. They generously sent 2018 catalogues that were distributed to the new beekeepers and club members. It was suggested that the club develop a vendor list (with contact information) by Janice and coordinate with Stephanie for field day to prevent double ordering of catalogues. Tony requested that Janice draft and send a thank you letter to Beeline Apiaries and Woodenware.



Larry expressed concerns and issues about the recent grant proposal submission pointing out several problems for the club that should have been addressed before the submission:

*Liability* – GCBA currently only has liability insurance for field day and not year-round.

*Limitations* – According to the Fairground’s Manager (Dennis Eck) we are only allowed four hives maximum in the apiary area. The grant states that there will be a total of six hives resulting in a conflict that could cancel out the viability of the grant.

*Hive Maintenance* – Concerns over who exactly would maintain the hives on a regular basis (especially during bee season) and the time that it would be done since most of our members work during the hours that the hives would need to be tended.

*Vandalism* – The installation of a shed with valuable club equipment brought up concerns about vandalism. The wooden fence at the rear of the current apiary could be easily broken to gain access (as has happened already). Security concerns need to be discussed.

The consensus at the end of the discussion was that although everyone agreed and were excited about the concept of the teaching apiary, that a full board discussion was needed to address all facets of the project and the establishment of a timetable to address the above issues in a thoughtful and responsible manner. It was agreed that to insure the success and continuity of this project (or any other) we must cautiously have a full discussion that includes the entire board to avoid conflicts resulting from the lack of information and promote cooperation of shared experience and ideas. Board meetings are uniquely purposed to address the above issues allowing us (as officers) to responsibly and inclusively set agendas with achievable and timely goals.

There was some discussion and concerns about the upcoming Crocker Park event and the GCBA participation’s of selling honey. It was brought to our attention that Dennis & Val Eck (friends of GCBA) are the established honey providers of the Crocker Park Farmer’s Market. Our participation (competing honey sale) may cause a conflict of interest. There is still confusion between Janice, Mark and Gary regarding the preparation and facility usage for the bottling. It was decided to wait on the project until a full (in person) board discussion could be scheduled on the agenda.

**Motion:** All new GCBA ventures (including grants, expenditures over \$100, changes in financial procedures and/or event participation) must be discussed and approved by the entire board before any action is taken.

**Unanimously approved.**

Motion made by: Larry Theurer

Second: Tony Indovina



Larry brought concerns regarding recent financial transactions on behalf of GCBA.

The purchase of Quickbooks may have been unnecessary as it was available through another resource as a shared (free) download.

A GCBA debit card was established without board discussion. Concerns for the possibility of access to and safety of the club's entire bank account were expressed.

Questions were raised regarding the non-profit limits/rules of funds accumulation. Further research is needed to make sure that we do not inadvertently violate the limits and that (if decided by the board) we are allowed to sell honey for profit.

**MOTION:** A savings account in the amount of \$15,000 will be opened by the Treasurer at Fifth Third Bank ASAP.

**Unanimously approved.**

Motion made by: Allyson May

Seconded: Mark Vandeyburg



Janice requested that a GCBA Action Timeline designating club action priorities (on a monthly basis) be created at the next board meeting. Each board member will be able to review and add duties and responsibilities to the list to help create a document that would be vital to the sustainability of the club's future leadership. Also suggested was the

creation of individual officer job descriptions that would be written by each officer to be used during elections.



Concerns were expressed about the OSBA information sharing sheet that was passed out to the new beekeepers. Even though OSBA offers a free one-year membership to those new members who sign up, it was felt that it may constitute a violation of the club member privacy policy not to share contact information with a third party. It was decided that in lieu of GCBA providing the contact information on behalf of the new beekeepers that a special sign-up sheet will be created by the secretary that the new beekeeper can check their name in agreement (or not) indicating their decision to share their contact information. This list will be available at the next meeting.

Approved On: \_\_\_\_\_