

GCBA Board Meeting

August 29, 2018

Berea Library

Start Time: 7:02 PM

Adjourned: 8:50 PM

Attending:

Annette Birt-Clark

Allyson May

Brett May

Gary Laisy

Carl Schiller

Janice Maund

Stephanie Sadlon (Guest)



Stephanie presented a comprehensive wrap-up of the Field Day. The following issues were presented as problematic:

- Problem with the operation of the projector provided by the Farm Bureau. Peggy Garnes saved the day with her projector. Possible solution: rent audio-visual equipment for the next field day.
- Issues with the sound system (assembly was very confusing). Gary labeled the wires and figured out the connections correctly this year but the issue is not resolved. Possible solution: rent audio equipment for the next field day.
- Scheduling (of presenters) issues due to changes in the weather. Threatening weather conditions required flip-flopping indoor speakers and outdoor demonstrations. Although confusing to the attendees, they were able to attend ALL planned activities by the close of the day. Possible solution: multiple presentations by speakers or a second schedule that takes into consideration possible inclement weather conditions.
- Advertising versus GCBA club only attendance. Field day 2018 was advertised in OSBA, surrounding beekeeper clubs and on the GCBA Facebook page. Attendance was low (approximately 70).
- Congestion at the registration table. Possible solution: move the registration area to the back of the bee barn.
- Attendees had to wait for the coffee to brew. Possible solution: Setup committee will be encouraged/scheduled to setup earlier for the 2019 Field Day.
- Attendees expressed the need for more "signage" indicating bee barn location and restroom location. Duly noted.
- Food choices required a lot of work (setup, cooking and cleanup) limiting participation by those volunteers to attend other activities. Possible solution: Explore alternative food choices such as box lunches, catering and/or pizza.

- Raffle prize distribution took a lot of time and effort. Possible solution: eliminate prizes at future field days and club meetings. Only have prizes at the GCBA picnic and the GCBA Christmas party.
- Other suggestions: Continue to secure donated bags (Blue Sky) and provide GCBA logo pens in lieu of prizes.

Quick review of the 2018 Cuyahoga County Fair participation. Tally attendance sheets have not been compiled yet but guestimates were high numbers. Future tally sheets will be kept at all future community outreach activities to quantify GCBA impact. Statistical information can be beneficial when applying for grants in the future. The honey tasting activity and coloring sheets were very popular as was the photo board. Coffee stirrers worked better than the honey tasting spoons. Many thanks to Gary Laisy for providing the children with coloring sheets. There were very few left. Recommendations: Have a scholarship information board and applications at the table. Have current swarm lists available for distribution. Consider an adult photo board for the 2019 CCF.

Questions re: the 2019 GCBA Scholarship form master copy. More questions re: the relevancy of this outreach based on past experiences. Group decision that the entire issue of the "scholarship" be discussed at length at the next board meeting.

Saturday, November 3rd, there will be a Makers Fair at the downtown Cleveland Public Library. Carl Schiller has agreed to man the table at this event.

The bylaw revision process is continuing with Carol Gideon (attorney and past GCBA treasurer) joining Larry Kelly and Brett May. Hopefully, the process will be completed in time for a December vote of the membership.

Rebecca Masterman from the University of Minnesota Bee Squad has agreed to be the main speaker at the 2019 Field Day!

There is still (at this time) only one signature on the GCBA bank accounts. Allyson is the authorized signer currently as well as the GCBA Treasure & Vice President. Janice Maund, the current secretary, will become the second signature for security reasons. Discussion re: opening a GCBA credit card resulted in the recommendation of purchasing money cards in lieu of the credit card to be used for purchases.

Motion (by Annette): *GCBA will purchase 15 copies of "The Beehive Alchemy Book" for \$225.00 from the Geauga County Beekeepers Association who are placing a large order to qualify for a discount. The books will go to the GCBA library and/or be sold to the GCBA membership at the reduced rate. **Seconded by Brett. Motion passes unanimously.***

The GCBA Library suitcase has been purchased as well as a book of 3 copy receipts. Dane is the only volunteer at this point. Hope to launch this project at the September meeting.

The volunteer commitment document is still a "work in progress".

Discussion on new beekeeper classes: No book sales are allowed in the libraries. Possible solution: pre-order with class payment the book cost. Possibly use the Parma-Snow branch and/or the Brooklyn branch. Audio-visual fees are \$50 - \$100. Hopefully the new beekeeper

training will be outside of the regular meeting schedule so as not to interrupt the experienced beekeepers from attending meetings. Some discussion re: the new beekeepers attending the regular meeting to discover the support that the club provides with ongoing education. There has been little retention of new beekeepers (based on guestimate not actual data) to attending/participating i GCBA regular beekeeper meetings.

The contract with the Metroparks for next year is coming due for signature. General agreement that we do not want to lose the Rocky River Metroparks meeting site.

Minimal discussion of switching the book for the new beekeepers class. General agreement to have a more formal discussion re: the new beekeeper class at a future board meeting.

GCBA will hold an "Open Hive Day" on September 8th, Saturday, from 1:00 – 2:30 at the CCF Apiary. Allyson will assist the new beekeepers in the examination and possible winterization of hives.

Discussion of storage unit rental by October 1st. Annette will draft a formal letter of donation re: the shelving unit at the bee barn. Annette will contact the storage unit manager to facilitate arrangements. CubeSmart and Sparefoot are the two searches that were made. A 5 x 10 foot unit ranged in cost from \$50 – 80 per month. Since unit rental is fluid, the search will have to start over. Previous units being held expired.

Motion (Annette): *Sell the GCBA extractor currently at the Bee Barn. **Seconded by Allyson.** Motion passes unanimously.*

Motion (Gary): *Purchase two small, high quality portable extractors to be used by GCBA members. **Seconded by Brett.** Motion passes unanimously.* Rental procedures to be determined at a future time.

Motion (Carl): *Purchase a GCBA laptop to be used by the Treasurer with Quickbooks installed and to include cloud storage. **Seconded by Brett.** Motion passes unanimously.*

Treasurer's Report: Checking Balance: \$2965.34

Saving's Balance: 15001.30 (Interest Bearing)

Unanimously decided to give Tammy a \$25 stipend on a monthly basis to cover kitchen expenditures at the GCBA meetings beginning immediately.