

SNOQUALMIE VALLEY BEEKEEPERS

BOARD YEARLY PLANNING MEETING

January 5, 2016

Board Members Present

Anne Mahoney, Roger Ledbetter, Bob Combs, Mike Skripek, Charles Schaffer, Andy Matelich, Ed Blechen, and David Springay.

Charles called the meeting to order at about 7:30 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Issue: Approval of the General meeting minutes from December 2014.

Discussion: A copy of the minutes from December 2014 were brought to the meeting by David. Roger pointed out that the Board reviewed the minutes at the January 2014 Board meeting, and preliminarily approved them pending final approval at the General meeting in December 2015. Roger made a motion to approve the minutes and it was seconded by Andy.

Action taken: **The December 2014 General Minutes were approved.**

NEW BUSINESS

Issue: Treasurer's Report.

Discussion: Anne reported that the club is entering the new year in good financial shape. Currently the club has \$6008.40 in the bank. She stated that we made about \$1100 from the festivals. Railroad Days accounted for about 60% of that while The Festival at Mt. Si was quite a bit less. She expressed a concern that Railroad Days may not happen this next year. If it does not happen, we will be losing one of our best sources of income. Membership dues amounted to about \$720, and the Apiary Auction produced \$650. The woodenware purchase produced a small loss of around \$35, which Bob suggested had to do with paying tax that was not collected. Bob reported he still has a few 10 frame boxes that were not picked up.

Action Taken: **None at this time.**

Issue: New Treasurer Appointment Replacing Previous Treasurer

Discussion: Anne's term as Treasurer expired in December 2014. She agreed to stay on until February 2016 to allow the Board to find a new Treasurer. Charles reported he had spoken to Susan Will, and that

she had agreed to serve as treasurer. Susan was unanimously approved by the Board to serve as treasure and Anne's resignation was accepted. Anne explained that for the new Treasurer and President to be able to make withdraws from the SVB's account that we must get new signature cards signed at the Umpqua bank. To do this the Treasurer and President must take a copy of the minutes to the bank Bob made a motion that Charles and Susan Will be the signatures on the SVB's account, and that Anne's and Mike's signatures be retired. Roger seconded the motion.

Action Taken: **The motion carried, and Susan Will and Charles Schaffer will be the names on the signature card at the Umpqua Bank, North Bend, WA., and will be authorized to make deposits and withdrawals from the Snoqualmie Valley Beekeeper's (SVB's) at said account. Susan Will (Treasurer) and Charles Schaffer (President) will go to the bank with a copy of the minutes, and sign the signature card so they will be able to conduct the club's business. Mike Skripek and Anne Mahoney's names will be deleted from the signature card. Susan Will is the SVB's new treasurer.**

Issue: Minutes from the General Meeting on December 1, 2015

Discussion: Roger pointed out that the minutes from the General Meeting in 2015 had been emailed out to Board members for review, and a few minor corrections were made, and suggested that the Board consider preliminary approval. The Bye Laws require the General Meeting minutes to be approved of by the next General Meeting. Charles made a motion that the Board approve the December 1, 2015 minutes as presented pending final approval at the next General meeting. Roger seconded the motion.

Action Taken: **The motion carried.**

Issue: Elections and Members of the Board

Discussion: The Bye Laws require 7-9 Board members, and to conduct any business there must be a quorum of 4 present. After the December 2015 General Meeting we had two open positions on the Board, and one open Officer position. Charles explained that Susan Will had agreed to serve as our Treasurer, and that Ed Blechen had agreed to another term on the Board. When approved, these additions would bring the total Board member to 8. There is still one open position. Andy made a motion that Ed Blechen be elected to serve another term on the board. David seconded the motion.

Action Taken: **The motion carried and Ed Blechen was elected to serve on the board for 2016 and 2017.**

Summary of Board Officers and Members

Officers

1. President: Charles Schaffer
2. Vice-President: Mike Skripek
3. Treasurer: Susan Will
4. Secretary: Roger Ledbetter

Members

1. Ed Bechen
2. Andy Matelich
3. Bob Combs
4. David Springay

Issue: Bye Laws require a General Meeting in December

Discussion: The SVB's General meeting in December was poorly attended. The meeting is an important one as Officers and Board members are elected at this meeting as well as other planning done for the year ahead. December is a busy time of holidays, and not a busy time of working with bees. Moving the General meeting to September could have a positive effect on improving attendance. A motion was made to that at the next General Meeting the Bye Laws be altered for the General Meeting to be held in September.

Action Taken: **The motion was passed to bring up the issue of changing the General meeting to September at the next General Meeting in December 2016.**

Issue: Poor Attendance at the Annual General Meeting

Discussion: It was suggested that attendance could be improved at the General Meeting if we took attendance at the monthly meetings, and offered a raffle at the General Meeting. A member would receive one raffle ticket for each meeting attended during the year, and the winner would be selected in a drawing at the General Meeting. The prize could be one of the nucs from the apiary. This suggested was received with positive comments, but a vote was not taken.

Action Taken: **None at this time.**

Issue: Washington State Beekeepers Association (WSBA)

Discussion: Charles explained that the WSBA does a lot to advocate for and protect the interests of beekeepers. He explained that \$1 of our dues goes to the WSBA and makes the SVB club an associate member. Because of the good works of the WSBA, Charles feels more members of the club should join. It cost \$20 a year for dues to join the WSBA.

Action Taken: **Charles will make an announcement to encourage member to join the WSBA**

Issue: Meadowbrook Preservation Fund

Discussion: Last year the SVB club donated \$350 to the Meadowbrook Preservation Fund. We benefit greatly from being able to use the facility for our meetings. Bob made a motion to donate \$350 again to the Meadowbrook Preservation Fund, and the motion of seconded by Ed.

Action Taken: **The motion carried, and \$350 will be donated in 2016 to the Meadowbrook Facility.**

Issue: Apiary Fund.

Discussion: Bob explained funds are need to run the apiary, and support the nuc program. The funds would be used to buy nuc boxes, frames and foundations. Last year \$600 was budgeted. Roger made a motion to budget \$600 for apiary expenditures, and was seconded by Andy.

Action Taken: **The motion carried, and \$600 is allocated for apiary related expenses.**

Issue: Speaker fees

Discussion: Last year \$1200 was allotted for speaker fees. Of that, we spent \$850. Charles suggested that it might be possible to save money and get top notch presenters by using technology, and having a live electronic presentation. This would save the cost of travel, and of housing. Board members mentioned grafting, queen raising, and use of the Cloake Board as topics they would like to have presentations on. If needed, the board could allocate more for programming as the year progresses.

Next month, Charles explained that he will be presenting on a recently published book which reports on new research about honey bee mating behavior. Roger made a motion to allot \$1200 for speakers in 2016, and it was seconded by Andy.

Action Taken: **The motion passed, and \$1200 will be the budget for programming.**

Issue: Membership chair

Discussion: Charles asked Andy if he would be willing to serve as the Membership chair. Andy agreed.

Action Taken: **Andy was appointed to cover the duties of the membership chair.**

Issue: Woodenware order.

Discussion: This last year there was a reduced interest in the woodenware order. There was a minor financial loss due to an error around tax. Bob said he was not inclined manage a group woodenware order this year, but could if there were 20 or so people who would like it.

Action Taken: **There will be no woodenware order this year unless there is a ground swell of interest. Charles makes bee equipment, and can supply woodenware to SVB members.**

Issue: Program Chair

Discussion: The position is currently open and Charles asked Mike if he would cover this. Mike agreed to if Bob would lend a hand. Bob agreed. David will assist as a technology assistant.

Action Taken: **Mike will take the lead on Program Chair with assistance from Bob and David.**

Issue: Adjourn the meeting

Discussion: Charles said all issues had been covered and made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Roger seconded the motion.

Action Taken: **The motion carried and the meeting adjourned about 9:30 p.m.**

Addendum:

Issue: Raffle off a nuc at the annual General Meeting

Discussion: During the meeting the idea of raffling off a nuc at the end of the year at the General Meeting was discussed with enthusiasm. There had been no objections. However, a vote on the issue was overlooked. Roger and Charles communicated by email about this and it was agreed the Board could vote by email to approve the raffle. Charles sent out emails to the Board members. about the issue, and received back 5 votes in favor of it. Two board members did not immediately respond.

Action taken: **The motion passed, and each year the Club will raffle off a nuc selected by the Apiary comity. Tickets for the raffle will be free and one ticket will be given out for each time a member/family attends a meeting. There will be a maximum of 8 tickets per year.**