

MINUTES
Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association
February 12, 2009
www.tampabaybeekeepers.com

The Tampa Bay Beekeepers Association monthly meeting came to order on Thursday, February 12, 2009, 2009 7:30 pm at the Hillsborough County Extension Office old meeting hall. David Smith presided as president, Robert Mesineo as vice president, Joyce Lang as treasurer and Renee Hartmann as secretary. The guests, Bud Strawn, Mike Styers, Darin Decker, and Kevin Hanna were local and from Ohio. Approximate number of attendees: 55. Bruce and Kathy McGehee provide refreshments. Thank you Bruce and Kathy.

Elmore Herman the Division Representative for the state association announced that the Florida State Beekeepers Association will have a June meeting in Bartow. He needs help with the meeting. He expects around 150 people He would like to invite Jerry Hayes to speak along with others. The date will be announced. If you would like to help out please email him at milliebee@earth-comm.com

David Hackenberg spoke about the research and findings about CCD. Penn state has been working on the CCD issue. There is evidence that the pesticide family Nicotinoid may be the issue. Because they are used everywhere from the back of the neck of pets for fleas, lawn care, and several crops in conventional agricultural it is very difficult for the Bayer Corporation to recognize that perhaps this multimillion dollar pesticide family may be causing problem with bees, bats and birds.

David Hackenberg has attended hours and hours of meetings with Penn State and EPA with various toxicologists. There are reports that birds and bats are on the decline. Hackenberg feels as of 2004 was the turning point of the bee industry occurred with the wide spread use of these products. The beekeepers are the 1st group of people to challenge the pesticide industry. Research is showing the pesticide as very persistent. Reno asked about Oregon report plants and insects dieing. David did not know anything about that. He reported because applicators mix the nicotinoid with inert ingredients that this may cause the chemical to cause more damage in the environment. EPA is resistant to find out which materials are actually used in the mixes because of trade secrets. Penn State is doing the research ... Bumble bees are having a lot of trouble. The bee viruses are being transmitted at the plant. We are learning. Email the EPA and BAYER Corporation. Bombard them with your concerns and questions. David Hackenberg knew of a few complaints. In CCD the bees are not lasting 36 to 46 days. Admire is in the nicotinoid family, It is used on row crop such as corn. Using corn syrup may not be a good idea because of the chemical residual in the corn that is used to make the corn syrup. Many large bee keepers are feeding protein in the winter. It appears to be helping build the hives and keep them around. But it is expensive..

Question: What are the citrus growers spraying for the psyllid that causes the citrus greening? Movera is the product for the greening. Is there money in the stimulus bill for Beekeepers? There was a provision for live stock insurance, where honey bees and fish are livestock. The beekeepers do not even know where the money is in the bill.

Discussion. and new business

David Smith discuss the Hall of Fame dinner he and his wife and Reno attended at the State Fair. The Four inductees are, James Griffith, of citrus founded the citrus growers association. Richard Kelley high school AG teacher and involved in FFA, Kay Richardson citrus industry sold the citrus and started into cattle, Mason Smoke, citrus business lobbyist whom died age of 33 years. The state association is trying to submit Lawrence Cutts, beekeeper into the Hall of Fame. .

Bill Roberts motioned for the club to pay for The Smiths Hall of Fame dinner. The motion was seconded and voted to approve.

Treasurer report. \$4368.87 Bert Kelley moved to accept the treasure report 2nd and approved Minutes for January were approved

Seminar. May 16, 2009 Rebecca Conroy is chairman for this seminar. She has requested people to help with publicity. As soon as we get a flyer, I will email it to all and if everyone could spread the word we will have a great turn out.. The fee is \$20.00 person and addition \$5.00 addition family member. If you volunteer for the seminar you will not be required to pay for the seminar. This is a big event for our club. We have several stations during the day and then in the afternoon we go to the classroom and here a lecture.

Rebecca Conroy is asking for a committee for the seminar to work on the schedule .
Publicity person is needed to help contact newspapers.
Sandy is checking date to handle food..

Jane will help with registration.
Bert Kelley would like to be vendor.

Other announcements:

Robert Mesineo is an Api-therapist

April 17, 2009 there is a class on api-therapy. This is given by two or three Doctors and an Acupuncturist.
The location of the class on healing people with bee stings is Double Tree on Rocky Point.

Club Apiary Report:

Work day on Saturday.9; 00. .

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Bert Kelley provided the door prizes. Thank you Bert

Next meeting is March 12, 2009

Meeting adjourned approximately 10.00 PM.

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Submitted by, RENEE HARTMANN