



LACBA May 2020 Meeting Notes May 4, 2020

Social hour:

Members Logged in for free open visiting time 6:45-7 pm

1. Welcome

Kevin Heydman opened the May Zoom meeting at 7 pm. He welcomed the approximately 75 club members who were able to join online or online by phone. He encouraged members to add questions in the Chat box and those would be addressed at the end of the meeting.

Jeff Laun gave a brief overview of Zoom techniques including the importance of muting yourself when you are not speaking and using the Gallery view/Speaker view. Mary Ann Laun urged members to record their questions in the Chat Session.

Kevin introduced the Board members and also asked who was attending that were First Time Members.

2. Committee report

a. Secretary's Report (Mary Ann Laun) gave an update on current emails that may be of interest to club members but are not within the realm of official club business. (These emails will be summarized and sent this week to paid membership only. She also mentioned the email to non-dues paying members which she sent. An additional 30 people updated their dues.

b. Treasurer's Report (Jon Reese) mentioned we have about \$20,000 in our account. \$15,000 was see money for the fair which is up in the air right now.

c. Membership (Cheryl Thiele) mentioned we have about 250 paid members. The online system she and Eva developed is working very well.

d. Beekeeping 101 (Cheryl Thiele) mentioned that 101 is being held via Webinar format. Students must register for each class. Cheryl did an online demo of the registration procedure. Fee participants will have priority. They are live classes so they are not recorded. There is no minimum age for the class since it is over Zoom. An adult must be present.

e. News from the Field (El Rey Ensich, Member at large)

El Rey provided background about the Asian hornet and referred to articles. Referred to LA Times Saturday May 2nd.

f. Education (Mary Landau)

Mary provided an update of some graphic materials that she would like to include in our educational portfolios. Suggested a new poster on “Year in the life of a beekeeper,” “how to act around bees”. She would also like to develop a video. Kevin reminded her that she has flexibility to move forward with her educational materials. Kevin mentioned that The Valley Hive gave a donation for education materials. A motion was made (Heydmanm Reese) to release an additional \$250 for educational materials.

g. Website update (Eva Andrews)

Eva provided information from the website on the Bee Informed Partnership Loss and Management Survey and the Mite-a-thon. Dates are on the right sidebar. Also many articles are on the Asian Hornet. Help save the Bees new app.

h. LA County Fair update (Cindy Caldera)

Cindy is in discussions with the Fair (they are on furlough) but as of this morning, the Fair is still pending. Orange County, San Diego and Ventura County fairs have been cancelled. If it does happen, our bee booth hours have been reduced. She will continue to monitor it. She asked for input about the honey sticks. Because of people handling them, we may need to prepackage.

Online Presentations included:

- a. How to install a NUC (Kevin and Nick Heydman)
- b. What to do on your first inspection (Keith Roberts)
- c. How to install a pollen trap (Kevin and Nick Heydman)

Note: Additional agenda item: Slack.com Michael Pusateri presented the concept of using Slack.com as an online chat for club members to ask questions and survey other beekeepers' experiences. Michael will be happy to create and monitor it. He will make a presentation to the Board at their next meeting.

Questions and Answers from Chat included a wide range of topics with Kevin Heydman, Keith Roberts, and Jon Reese responding.

Members conducted a brief survey on the Zoom call.