



General Membership Meeting Minutes

June 28, 2024

6:30 pm – Networking, 7:00 pm Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** 7:07 PM

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Member Introductions : Name, Location and number of hives**

4. **Presentation:** Grant Stiles from Stiles Apiary and That Honey Place – Q & A

Grant provided an in depth and informative question and answer session. Among the topics covered were: swarms, mite control and schedules, Queens, Hot bees, use of the smoker, proper hive components and setup and honey jar labels. Grant also mentioned that on Saturday, July 20th Tim Schuler will be hosting a workshop regarding honey extraction at his home.

5. **Minutes from last meeting:** See webpage

6. **Treasurer's Report:** As of 6/28 the balance is: \$28,352.21. The cost of the picnic was \$6,246 and income from attendees was \$1,610. Final picnic cost: \$4,636.

7. **Committee Reports:**

Education: Jeff Burd

- **A fall class** is scheduled for September 14th and 21st in West Windsor, Mercer County.
- **50th Anniversary of the Honeybee as the NJ State Insect:** Jeff B. gave remarks on June 6th at the Sunnybrae Elementary School in Hamilton Township and Yasmin attended the event as well. There were children's activities as well as an informational booth set up by Yasmin. The school asked for a donation to create a pollinator garden.

Events Chair: Geff Vitale

- **The Monmouth County Fair** will be held on July 24 through July 28. Geff will reach out for volunteers within the next week. He presented slides regarding the location of the Bee Booth and the shifts that must be filled by our members. All members will be given a shirt and passes to the fair. Everyone is encouraged to participate regardless of experience!
- **Our Family Bee Day Picnic**, held on Sunday, May 19th was very successful. Members and guests enjoyed the facility, food and fabulous prizes.
- **Donations:** Bill Woodard sent the Sunnybrae Elementary School PTA an application for the pollinator garden they would like to install for the 50th Anniversary of the Honeybee as the NJ State Insect. The Donation Committee will determine the amount of the "one-time" donation and present this to the Board and Membership for approval.
- **Honey Queen:** A motion was made to donate \$1,000 to the Honey Queen Program. The motion was seconded and voted in favor.

8. **Statewide Updates:**

- Five for the Hive – potential reschedule 2025
- NJBA Upcoming new Website
- New Honey Queen – Maddie Tubbs from the Essex Branch

9. **Old Business:**

- **Extractor:** A motion was made to require a \$50 deposit when borrowing the extractor. If the extractor is not returned clean and dirt free, the deposit will not be refunded. The motion was seconded and passed. A discussion followed regarding the drafting of a contract to borrow the extractor, specifying expectations.
- **T-Shirts for Central:** Members were sent the link to order T-Shirts. There are many choices of style, color and messages.

10. **New Business:**

- **Facebook Pages:** We have 2 facebook pages. One will not permit comments (except from the administrator) and the other (CJBA group) will. The membership was in favor of deleting the CJBA page which does not permit comments.
- **EAS Donation** from Branch Members: This is an individual donation. If interested, please send your donation to Landi Simone by July 21st.
- **Fall Field Day:** Lew will be organizing a hands on Fall Field Day for interested members. The date has not been set yet.
- **Library Swap:** Jenn will look into this. However, members can use the search tool at the Monmouth County Library to locate specific books about bees.
- **Rutgers Spring Cleaning:** On June 29th Rutgers will be hosting a spring cleaning day at their research location. Hive boxes, frames, etc. are available.
- **Social Meet-Up with Raritan Valley:** Readington Brewery on August 15th
- **NJBA Picnic** – August 17th at Bob Hughes house.

11. **Jennifers Jokes**

12. **50/50:** \$66

Meeting adjourned: 8:55 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Angela Juffey
Central Jersey Beekeepers Association, Secretary