

The minutes of the SCBA meeting of 2/18/12. The meeting began at 11:25 am in the Administration Building of the Sussex County Fairgrounds.

Attendance: Ed Balogh, Debbie Cowell, JC Cowell, Carmine DeFalco, Don Drake, Gilles Fenczak, Karen Fenczak, Jim Foster, David Kunz, Tom Makoujy, Bruce Masters, Mark Orce, Sharon Orce, Roman Osadca, Joe Perosa, Marsha Roemer, Debbie Schulaka, Michele Smith, Nora Swartout, Candy Thompson, Chris Tomlinson, Ken Warren, William White, Mat Wingle.

Chris Tomlinson opened the meeting reminding members to register their hives with NJDEP to be alerted for pesticide spraying. The cutoff date to register is 3/1/12.

The Spring State Meeting will be held at Dukes Plantation (Somerville area) on 5/5/12. Randy Oliver will be the speaker.

SCBA has three entries in the state honey show. The mead made at the last meeting is bubbling and will be ready for consumption at next January's meeting.

Discussion on whether SCBA would meet the requirements to host the Fall State Meeting. Chris Tomlinson would prefer to focus on the SCBA staffing a table at the Harvest Festival this year rather than on hosting the state meeting. Decided was to investigate where it could be held, meal options, the need to attract approximately 160 people, charge \$25.00 per person and have a committee of three to five people to put it together. There will be a \$600 stipend from the State Beekeeping Association towards our holding the meeting. Candy Thompson and JC Cowell volunteered to investigate locations that may be suitable. The State has given us one week to decide.

The Harvest Festival Committee will be chaired by Roman Osadca and members will be Leeann Coleman, Carmine DeFalco and Michele Smith. The focus at the Festival will be on products of the hive by display, free sampling and selling.

Chris Tomlinson has assigned the responsibilities of Activities Director to JC Cowell.

The Fair Committee Chair is Debbie Cowell with Gilles Fenczak as Pricing Director. If interested in joining this Committee, please contact Debbie Cowell.

The Introduction to Beekeeping Course, which will be held on 3/10 and 3/17, currently has ten enrollments.

Mat Wingle will start a signup sheet for those interested in having the State Apiarist inspect their hives. The inspections will be planned for during the summer around Tim Schuler's schedule and the weather.

Carmine DeFalco informed the group the Bee Research Lab in Beltsville, MD will test dead bees at no charge. He lost two hives and the result of their testing indicated Nosema ceranae as the cause.

Tom Makoujy has learned, through his grandson (a student at Pope John High School), that the school has received an electron microscope. Tom is hoping the biology teacher may have interest in looking at

member's bees, through this microscope, and be able to identify bacteria that may be causing bee fatalities.

The meeting, which ended at 12:15 pm, was followed by speakers Angelo and Anna Trapani with a lecture on honey show preparation.

Information received after the recording of the minutes:

Here is the website to the Bee Research Lab in Beltsville, MD (provided by Carmine DeFalco)  
<http://www.ars.usda.gov/Services/docs.htm?docid=7472>.