



## General Membership Meeting Minutes

September 22, 2023

6:30 pm – Networking, 7:00 pm Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** 7:00
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **In Memoriam:** Moment of Silence for members who have recently passed.
4. **Member Introductions**
5. **Save the Dates**
  - **Friday, September 22nd** CJBA Membership Meeting - Lincroft, NJ
  - **Saturday, October 14th** NJBA Fall Meeting - Cream Ridge, NJ
  - **Sunday, October 15th** Thompson Park Day - Lincroft, NJ
  - **Friday, November 17th** CJBA Membership Meeting + Election - Lincroft, NJ
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Lew reported that our balance is: \$29,922. A concern was raised regarding the amount permitted in the account which may initiate an audit. Discussion followed. The general consensus is that CJBA is within the restrictions, however additional information will be sought.
7. **Committee Reports**
  - **Membership Committee (Jeff Burd):** Nancy Armbruster and Jeff sent out approximately 100 letters to members with expired memberships. They followed up with emails. Postage was the only cost. The Membership Committee is updating the Welcome Package for new members.
  - **Audit Committee (Vacant)**
  - **Education Committee (chair: Jeff Burd):** The short course in Ewing was recently completed and was attended by 6-8 people. The Field Experience will be scheduled. The short course was attended by 2 students who will be responsible for the hives on the Howell Living Farm.
  - **Events Chair (chair: Geff Vitale): Monmouth County Fair ~** Geff thanks the 40 volunteers for help with the fair. Special thanks to Elizabeth Piccola who volunteered each day and took a major role in running the fair. CJBA sold 425 (1lb.) jars, 96 (2lb.) jars, 225 (12 oz.) bears and 72 Hot Pepper honey. In addition, over 8,000 honey sticks were sold, 85 Hand Creams, 285 Lip Balms, and 225 Candles were sold. Geff also thanks Angelo and Anna Trapani, Mary Kosenski, Angela Juffey, Curtis Crowell and Gene Armstrong for their honey, candles, hand cream, lip balm and Honeybee hive donations to make the fair a success. The revenue from the fair was \$12,019, expenses were \$8,320 making our profit: \$3,717. Part of the fair expense was the cost of our new banner and the jar labels.  
**Thompson Park Day, Sunday, October 15th:** Set-up begins at 9:00 and breakdown will be at 5:00. Volunteers will be needed. A signup will be sent to the members. Katie Culbert, our Honey Queen will be attending.

Honey sticks, candles, lip balm and hand cream will be sold in addition to handing out NJBA pamphlets.

- **Donations Committee (Vacant):** Bill Woodard will be stepping up to act as the new Chair. A donation to the Friends of the Park Creative Arts has been suggested as they supply the tent used by CJBA during the Monmouth County Fair.
- **Social Media Committee (chair: Danielle Garske):** CJBA has a Members Only and a General Facebook page.
- **Nominating Committee (chair: Jeff Burd):** Each position has a candidate. Bios will be sent out to the membership before the November meeting.

## 8. Statewide Updates

- NJBA Election: Members will receive emails.

9. **Old Business:** Jeff Burd accepted donated equipment from Jeff Hilzinger, who is no longer keeping bees. Some of the equipment was auctioned and the proceeds were donated to the Honey Queen Program. Additional equipment will be available for use in the western part of the state. Jeff Burd sent a note of Thanks to Jeff Hilzinger for his generous donations.

## 10. New Business

- **County Fair Debrief:** see above.
- Lew suggested having an “Open Hive Day” when potential new beekeepers could come to a bee yard and obtain hands on experience before taking the short course. A discussion resulted regarding insurance concerns in case of an accident (bee sting, fall, etc.). This would need further consideration (possibly a waiver) since the visits to the bee yards are not sponsored by CJBA.
- **Uncapping Tanks:** Virginia will check to see if the extractors are accompanied by uncapping tanks.
- **November 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting:** A motion was made by Jeff Burd, to spend \$25 per person for catering services at our next meeting and seconded by Anna Trapani. Lew will look into menus provided by Delicious Orchards and Angela will research the provisions offered by the Parks System. Discussion will occur at the next EBoard meeting (November 3<sup>rd</sup> and RSVPs would be required by November 10<sup>th</sup>.)

## 11. Presentation:

- 8:00PM Addressing Small Hive Beetles, Jeff Burd

*Aethina tumida* arrived from South Africa in 1996 and is now predominantly found in Southeast U.S. Eggs are laid in crevices, pollen and brood comb. Eggs hatch in 2-3 days and the larvae (white colored worms) mature in 2 weeks. The larvae leave the hive and pupate in the soil. After 3 weeks the adults return to the hive as they are attracted by the scent. Adults can fly 10 miles and live for 6 months while tunneling through the comb, defecating in the honey and causing discoloration. The resulting damage and fermentation causes the honey to ooze out of the frames which will appear wet and slimy.

SHB can transmit Sacbrood Virus, AFB and EFB via the hair on their legs. Treatment and Prevention include using Beetle Traps, Diatomaceous earth, Winter green drops, Beneficial Nematodes, Unscented Swiffer sheets, Permethrin, and changing the hive location to eliminate standing water after rain and early morning exposure to sun. Note that a small number of beetles is acceptable. A strong hive will keep the beetles in control. Location is important to minimize infestation. Be careful when using pollen patties which are also attractive to beetles. Do not leave fully honey supers unattended for more than 48 hours. As a general rule, honey supers removed should be spun the same day!

Thank you Jeff, for this very informative presentation!

- **Raffle Drawings** (50/50 cash): The Raffle Drawing was \$30.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Anna Trapani and seconded by Jen Cotton.

Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Juffey

Central Jersey Beekeepers Association, Secretary