



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
BROWARD BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION**

**Held At Sawgrass Nature Center in Coral Springs
300 Sportsplex Drive at 3:30 p.m. – 11/10/2013**

Officers present at the meeting:

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| President | - | Dr. Leo Gosser |
| Treasurer | - | Dan Novack |
| Secretary | - | Novelette Reid |

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

Dr. Gosser commenced the meeting with members' introduction.

TREASURY'S REPORT

BBA's checking account balance \$2162.26 – this does not reflect the \$900.0 spent the BBA Banquet to be held at the Golden Coral, November 8, 2013. Dan advised that a room has been reserved for the banquet and tickets are \$15.00. The book First Lessons in Beekeeping was available to members – reminder that included with dues, members receive either a T-Shirt or the First Lessons in Beekeeping. Dan also informed the meeting we had 2 new members to the BBA.

APIARY UPDATE

Edmond Reid addressed the meeting with regard to the community apiary. He advised that 8 members have hives at the Apiary. A couple of members had their hives inspected and registered in October. He also stated he had information from a member that the Inspector would be at the Apiary November 23, 2013 so those who have not yet done so, could arrange to have their hives inspected. He also informed that Charles need to have his hives re-located at the community apiary. He will try to contact him.

Draft Proposed Apiary Rules – Dr. Gosser informed the meeting that the Association is in process of drafting rules for the apiary. This will include:-

1. The community apiary is for members only who are in good standing.
2. Limit the number of hives at the apiary.
3. Hives must be properly registered.
4. Members who wish to place hives at the apiary must receive approval from the Association and the Apiary Manager.

Dr. Gosser advised that the Association has a written Agreement with Mecca Farms on a yearly basis for the use of the property for the purpose of the apiary. As to whether the property should be fenced or hedged, Dr. Gosser advised that fencing/hedging is not required for agricultural property.

Waiver and Liability Form - As every beekeeper encounters liability problems, Dr. Gosser informed the meeting that Dara Khan who has paralegal experience is assisting in putting together a Waiver and Liability Form for beekeepers and also one for bee removal. Once completed, it will be posted on the website in the members' only section.

WEBSITE UPDATE

Keith addressed the meeting and advised that the website is coming along very well and hopefully should be completed by the end of the month. He mentioned a number of improvements to look for on the upcoming revised website:-

1. There will be a link for members only.
2. There will be a link for bee removal with prepared forms to be completed.
3. Message board for members.
4. Disclosure Agreement to be signed in order to access members' personal information.

BBA is extremely thankful and appreciative for Keith and his brother's assistance in this matter.

Marie again reiterates the fact that members can exchange personal information at the BBA meetings.

GUEST SPEAKER – JOSE - TD BANK AFFILIATE PROGRAM

Jose from the Coconut Creek store of T.D Bank addressed the meeting. He advised that the affiliate program assists not-for-profit organization gain money. Jose stated that TD Bank has agreed to provide financial support to the Broward Beekeepers Association through its Affiliate Program. For every individual or company that maintains a bank account with TD Bank and indicates they wish to be affiliated with BBA, TD Bank will donate monies to the BBA. The exact amount of the donation will depend on the number of accounts and the average balances maintained over the year. It's simple, to participate, current TD Bank customers need only indicate to their bank officer, that they wish to affiliate with BBA. BBA's affiliation number is **A1513**. That number must be given to the bank officer. Jose

stated that we can also advise our neighbors to open an account and link it to BBA. Jose stated that this action costs us nothing and helps the BBA financially. He asked members to see him at the conclusion of the meeting to sign up.

OPEN FORUM

A discussion ensued as a result of question from a member about going commercial. Roger wanted to know what was involved in doing so. Dr. Gosser advised that there is much legality involved in commercial beekeeping. He advised Roger to speak with a commercial beekeeper and strongly recommend him consulting an attorney before he does anything.

There was an inquiry regarding hosting workshop on how to make certain beekeeping equipment, e.g. a bee vacuum. Roger retrieved his home-made bee vacuum from his vehicle and presented it to the meeting with explanation of how he put it together.

Someone asked where the registration number should be located on the hive. Dan advised that the number should be permanently imprinted on the upper left hand corner of the hive bodies in letters at least one-half (1/2) inch in height. The same registration number is used for any other hive a member may have in another location.

Dr. Gosser concluded the meeting advising beekeepers to maintain certified European Queen stock and to check our hives regularly to ensure the hives are healthy and in good condition.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Novelette Reid
Secretary

