

MINUTES OF THE BIMONTHLY MEETING OF THE
ILLINOIS STATE BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
AN ILLINOIS NOT-FOR-PROFIT CORPORATION
HELD SEPTEMBER 7, 2013

The Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Illinois State Beekeepers Association (ISBA), an Illinois Not-for-Profit Corporation, scheduled to be held at the University of Illinois Pollinarium, 606 W. Windsor Road, Urbana, Illinois on September 7, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. was moved to the Esquire Restaurant, 106 N. Walnut, Champaign, Illinois. A notice was posted on the Pollinarium door with information regarding the change in location.

President Belli called the meeting to order at 11:40 a.m. The following Officers and Directors were present: Jim Belli, Rich Ramsey, Mike Mason, Janet Hart, Erik Whalen-Pedersen, and Steve Petrilli; constituting a quorum. Karen Belli attended as a guest.

Belli introduced Steve Petrilli as the Interim Membership Director. The previous Membership Director, Sue Kivikko, resigned due to personal reasons.

Vice President's Report. Rich Ramsey asked for reimbursement of bills he paid for merchandise sold by the ISBA at the Illinois State Fair. A motion to reimburse Ramsey was made, seconded and unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report. Minutes from last meeting sent via email were amended and approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Mike Mason distributed the cost sheet for the Summer Meeting. He said our tax exempt status has not been granted and more information is required to pursue getting the tax exempt status. Mason also asked the Board for an opinion regarding an ISBA member who wrote a check that was returned for insufficient funds and cost the ISBA \$36.00. It was agreed that the member who incurred the \$36.00 fee should be responsible for payment of the fee.

Membership Director's Report. Steve Petrilli said he is working with the information he received from Sue Kivikko. He would like to work more with the ISBA clubs to develop a format for tracking members that could be used by both the club and ISBA. He feels members should get some acknowledgement when they join ISBA. He also said ISBA should look into purchasing a printer and storage devices for critical membership files. It was agreed that he should report back to the Board when he has researched necessary equipment. Petrilli said he wants to communicate with the associated clubs and help them set up spreadsheets so membership records could be handled more efficiently.

In addition to his role as Membership Director, Petrilli mentioned communications he has received as the Webmaster regarding swarm calls. He informed the Board that

some individuals who were listed as accepting swarm calls have had very negative responses to calls and he is no longer going to direct swarm calls to individuals that have responded in such a manner.

Northern Region Director's Report. Erik Whalen-Pedersen said he has heard rumblings from two individuals who want to look at the ISBA financial records. He was told to have the individuals refer to the ISBA by-laws for the process to follow to request a review of the accounts from the Treasurer. It was agreed that an email request would be accepted.

Whalen-Pedersen stated there is discontent with the Cook-DuPage Club and a new club that has formed in that area. He has not been at meetings at either of the two clubs. Ramsey stated that the Regional Director is responsible for attending meetings of clubs in their area so the members get to know their representative, and giving presentations about ISBA and American Beekeeping Federation, and finding out what the local clubs are doing.

Central Region Director's Report. Janet Hart stated that she has been going to the Illinois Valley Beekeepers Association meeting to do a presentation and will also go to Quincy to give a presentation to Mississippi Valley Beekeepers, who brought 14 people to the Illinois State fair to work the ISBA booth. She also plans to continue communicating with the Monmouth Club.

Janet stated that Illinois State University Beekeepers Association got a \$20,000.00 grant through Carl Wenning to be used for the construction of a sugar house to capable of processing honey and maple syrup.

Janet told Mason that she was notified IDOT has been cutting the goldenrod in highway cloverleaf areas. She is hopeful that this practice can be stopped. Mason said they might be cutting due to noxious weed ordinances but he will look into the matter.

Southern Region Director's Report. Ray Chapman was not at the meeting.

Unfinished Business

2013 Joint Meeting with Wisconsin Honey Producers - Status Report

The joint meeting of the Wisconsin Honey Producers and ISBA is scheduled to start October 31, 2013 and conclude November 3, 2013. The first and last day have meetings scheduled for the Wisconsin Honey Producers Board. Lectures will be held on Friday, November 1st and Saturday, November 2nd. Belli has communicated with Derald Kettlewell, President of the Wisconsin Honey Producers. The meeting will be held at the Racine Marriott Hotel and Conference Center, 7111 W. Washington Ave., Racine, Wisconsin. The schedule for the meeting is in place and registration forms will be available shortly.

Nominating Committee - Status Report

Janet Hart said the Nominating Committee had no new information to report.

Fall Meeting Report.

Belli stated that all the arrangements have been made for the ISBA Fall Meeting. Corky Schnadt has agreed to contact vendors for donations for the Meeting and also to set up tables with their products.

Summer Meeting Report.

Janet Hart is looking into the Illinois Valley Community College in Ottawa as a possible location to hold the summer meeting, hopefully at no charge. Heart of Illinois and Illinois Valley Beekeepers Association are interested in co-hosting the meeting.

New Business

Formation of a Presenters Roster for ISBA affiliated clubs.

Jim asked Petrilli to put together roster of speakers and what subjects they will talk on. It will include a bio with their years of experience, and any costs involved.

Additional Business.

Petrilli stated the computer with the membership file has never been backed up. He would like to buy an external backup drive for the ISBA files and also purchase a printer for ISBA materials. Belli told him to get prices for the required equipment and the Board could approve the purchase via email. Petrilli also brought up the question about student memberships. The current policy allows youths (age 18 and under) to have a free membership if they are active in an ISBA affiliated club. Petrilli also said that the Illinois State Fair Bee Culture exhibit procedure for judging and feedback needs some adjusting to work more smoothly.

Belli stated that he would like a vote at the November Meeting to revise the by-laws. He would like to see the paragraph from Section 3 – Nominations (i) eliminated. It states: “An elected Executive Board member currently serving may submit his/her resignation from his/her present office before the Nominating Committee presents its report, so that his/her name may be placed in nomination for another office. In that case, the President shall appoint another member to complete the unexpired term so created.”

The motion was made, seconded and approved to put the proposed revision up for a vote at the Fall Meeting.

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:34 p.m. on September 7, 2013, pursuant to a motion made, seconded and approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Belli, Recorder