

**HUMBOLDT COUNTY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, 7 June 2017, 12:30 pm**

Location: UC Ext Board Room, Humboldt County Agriculture Department, 5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA

Time: 12:30 pm – 2:45 pm

Board members attending: Justin Reeve, President (760) 505-9021 (justinmreeve87@gmail.com); Janelle Bucklin, Treasurer (mommy2anni@gmail.com); Britt Frey (boldagain@icloud.com); Laurie Neville, Secretary (QMR_Bees@iCloud.com);

Board members absent: Co-Chair Paul Leslie (humboldthoneywine@yahoo.com), Robin Gereck (bizzybawdy@yahoo.com), Vice President Jamie Bucklin, (jamiEBucklin@yahoo.com)

Public members present: Max Abrahamsen (Past President, Humboldt Botanical Garden), Jeannine Kaprielian

Reference documents: (1) Proposed June agenda (HCBA_June_2017_AGENDA.pdf) (2) MAY 2017 Minutes (HCBA_MAY_2017_MINUTES.pdf),

a) **Public Comment:** Max Abrahamsen, Humboldt Botanical Garden (HBG) Past President/Volunteer invited the HCBA to participate in the next upcoming “Birds & Bees” Series, a monthly program of guest speaker(s). The HCBA would have a display, with flyers/informational handouts for visitors on pesticides, bees, gardening in addition to the observation hive. The suggested program included three talks on “Bees & Beekeeping” (Britt Frye or Jamie Bucklin), “Native Bees in your Garden” (Kim McFarland, Director – Friends of the Dunes to be invited) and “Bee-Friendly Gardening” (Proposed speaker Julia Graham-Witt or a panel of beekeepers/gardeners). Max also expressed related interest in establishing an apiary on the grounds of the HBG. He will check on specifics with respect to this proposed collaboration with the HCBA.

Action Items:

1. **Wed, 7 June 2017 Agenda approved**

2. **Wed, 3 May 2017 meeting minutes approved with changes**

3. **Public general comment for consideration**

a. Max Abrahamsen, past President/volunteer of Humboldt Botanical Garden (HBG) presented request for participation of the HCBA at the HBG “Birds and Bees” Event scheduled for Saturday, June 24 12:00-2:00 p.m. (2 hours). It will have a focus on beekeeping, native bees and pollinator gardens. A volunteer team, display and coordination of speakers for the event will be assembled by HCBA Board members, Britt and Laurie who will also meet with Max at the HBG to check the site of the event. The week of 24 June is also “National Pollinator Week”

4. The Board voted on and approved collaboration set for **June 24 2017 HBG “Birds & Bees Series”** event from 12-2 pm with the HBG. To involve the HCBA display, materials, handouts, speaker confirmations, volunteer coordination and observation hive participation. Contact person for the HBG is Max Abrahamsen, Email: rudyaBe@aol.com; Tel: (817) 793-4192.

Items for discussion (Public comment requested at start of each item)

5. **Treasurer’s Report** (J Bucklin) Asset balance for HCBA account as of June 6 at \$9031.53 following Bee Fest, which had a net profit of \$2225.56. In comparison to previous years, the first Bee Fest yielded \$1700.00, Bee Fest 2016 yielded \$1000.00. Initial budget for 2017 Bee Fest was \$3500.00. The 2017 Bee Fest budget was over-budget by \$200.00. Please see detailed June 2017 budget report, profit/loss and statement for more information on expenditures/income.

6. Discussion of Bee Fest 2017:

- a. Though challenging at times, the collaboration with Adorni Center/ECO Eureka for Bee Fest was a success, & well received by the community. A total of \$1850 in raffle tickets were sold (@ \$1 each).
- b. Expenses for 2017 were higher. But so was the profit.
- c. Workload and responsibilities could have been better distributed. Increase efforts on recruiting people to help on committee. With better planning in year preceding the event to distribute work & tasks. Establishing committees and subcommittees with clear goals throughout year (6-9 months) in advance suggested.
- d. Additional insurance was required, currently a 1 million dollar policy, but C of E required two million dollar policy, so had to pay an extra \$401.00 for event insurance to C of E.
- e. Equipment rentals were higher with additional sound equipment (Amp & Mic), screen. It was suggested to get a remote mic next event.
- f. Tablecloths (yellow) purchased for future events. To save on rental cost.
- g. Thank you letters, acknowledgements to sponsors with logo letterhead (Janelle Bucklin will get this in order) will be put together and sent.
- h. Inventory and summary of materials to be made in preparation for establishing 2018 budget.
- i. Preparation of committees suggested to be made in advance for next year to recruit volunteers for support in various tasks, including inviting sponsors, donations, raffle items.
- j. The placement of a welcoming team at the entrance resulted in over \$1000 in cash donations and feedback from the volunteers that being greeted by beekeepers was a very positive aspect of the experience.
- k. Suggestion was made to place the observation hive in the middle of the room with two beekeepers to increase circulation of the crowd.
- l. **Bee Fest 2018 event date proposed for Saturday, May 19, 2018.** The following were candidates to start the planning committee in advance: Janelle Bucklin, Britt Frey, Lorna Brown, Justin Reeve.

7. **Outcome of Eureka Natural Foods fund-raising effort** held Sat, Mar 25, 2017 was a success in terms of community outreach with a total donation of \$2255.66 presented at the June general meeting to the membership and Association. **The owner at ENF suggested another event at the McKinleyville store for a fundraiser – July 2017 was mentioned, Justin will follow this up with the ENF owner.**

8. **Status of new website launch (Ellen Cotes & Eureka Media) (L Neville)** – The new website should be live as the HCBA current website (<http://humboldtbeekeepers.org>) no later than June 10, 2017.

9. Outcome of school/community events:

- a. **Pacific Union Elementary School, May 26, 2017.** Jamie Bucklin participated at Pacific Union After School Visiting Professionals Program, gave a brief talk, presented the observation hive. The event went well.
- b. **Manila Health and Safety Fair, May 6, 2017** Chris House and L. Neville set up a display with beekeeping equipment, educational materials and outreach for Safety Fair visitors. Approximately 100 people over a couple of hours.

10. **Honey Extraction event at Mad River Brewery** – discussion and plan to be further laid out, date for event proposed: Sunday, August 27, 2017. Justin Reeve will follow up with Mad River Brewery staff and confirm date.

11. **Honey Extractor Fund update and plan:** \$178.00 raised to date. Extractor purchase options are variable. Need a bit more research – suggestions made to sell the two older galvanized manual extractors, then buy one new stainless, probably a 6-9 frame electric and/or a 6 frame radial hand crank model. Make decision at next Board meeting (July 2017). Justin R and Jamie will collaborate on models.

12. HCBA logo fundraising products – Developments & plan (Janelle Bucklin):

- a. Discussed t-shirts, sizes and colors – color not ideal on printed shirts – too orange for some. Caps very popular. Establishing sizes (particularly womens) to purchase continues to be a challenge. Treasurer suggested a special order in Fall for Association (Sep/Oct) - for members with forms to be submitted with specific items (hoodies, etc). Further discussion needed on this. A HCBA logo table/wall banner was also requested for outreach events.

13. Status of pending and confirmed general meeting guest speakers

- a. Discussion/planning on potential speakers contacted, or to be contacted: (Jake Yarish, Les Crowder and others...) Dick La Forge is confirmed as guest speaker for August 2017 General Meeting on Honeybee diseases and parasites. September and October are open. Michael Mesler and or Kim McFarland are pending for a Fall lecture on native bees.

14. Planning for community/merchant-based fundraising/outreach events for 2017 (excluding Bee Fest). Including. fairs, schools, clubs, use of demonstration hive, disposition of outreach materials and access the HCBA materials, etc. And improvements/ideas for materials for display. Currently the storage is at Jamie Bucklins construction shop in McKinleyville. Contact is Jamie Bucklin for access to the display and meeting materials.

15. Status of pending special local expertise/mentorship workshops (Topics/dates) further discussion/planning. Currently a field workshop with Justin Reeve on (tentative) Wednesday, July 13 at his Fieldbrook Apiary is planned. Other workshops to be identified.

16. Topics for consideration at next Board Meeting (Wed., 5 July, 2017 12:30 p.m.)

June 7, 2017 HCBA Board meeting adjourned 2:45 p.m.

JUNE GENERAL MEETING REPORT

Thursday, June 1, 2017 General Meeting:

Duration: 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Attendance: 65

**Program: “Queen Rearing Basics:
Best Management Practices for
Successful Queens”**

Bernardo Niño

Research Associate, El Niño Bee Lab

Honey Bee Research Facility, University of California, Davis

Bernardo gave an excellent talk providing insights on considerations of forming local queen rearing operations, biological aspects of rearing local queens, using methods and managing small scale queen rearing. Aspects of genetic considerations were covered and the realities of commercial queen breeding operations. His talk included tips on managing and handling bees.

Bernardo works as a Staff Research Associate in Dr. Niño’s Lab, Department of Entomology and Nematology and the Harry Laidlaw Jr. Honey Bee Research Center at UC Davis. He received a Master’s degree in Entomology from North Carolina State University in 2009. He keeps over 100 colonies happily buzzing to accommodate the needs of all the researchers in the lab. Bernardo supervises the Master Beekeeping Program and for the past seven years has been involved with organizing and running the UCD Queen Rearing Workshops

JUNE 2017 MEDIA REPORT

Public Service Announcements for the HCBA general meeting & lecture featuring Bernardo Nino lecture and the HCBA/Humboldt Botanical Garden June “Birds and Bees Series” event was sent to the established radio, print and internet media sites and posted on Humboldt Beekeepers Yahoo Listserv and Facebook page in June and additional reminders to social media and to the Humboldt Botanical Gardens membership and mailing list.