

Douglas County Bees
Monthly General (email) Meeting
February 3, 2021

Good evening members,
It's almost Spring.... Punxsutawney Phil said so!!!

The DCB Board had an in person meeting this afternoon with lots of topics discussed and all will be disclosed here in this monthly general meeting newsletter/email.

We are sad to learn the passing of Dave Humbert (last week). I have sent a sympathy card to the family on behalf of Douglas County Bees. Robert Baune and I signed it. Dave was good company at the meetings and a great help on cut-outs. The family will let us know what they decide to do with the bees.

DCB will have a booth at the upcoming UVHBA home and garden show in March 2021. Please call me at 541-863-9523 to let me know what days and times you would like to help out at the booth. Volunteers are NEEDED.

March 5, 2021 11:00am – 7:00pm

March 6, 2021 10:00am – 5:00pm

March 7, 2021 10:00 – 4:00pm

It has been determined that the items in our equipment list (that was created last October) will be assigned a dollar value. This for tax purposes and insurance purposes.

Next year (2022) the annual membership renewal dues will be raised to \$20.00 per person. (not per household) New members registering past January will of course have prorated dues at the rate of \$1.66 per month for the remainder of the year.

DCB has to send \$1.00 per member (not per household) to OSBA as our Affiliation Fees. There are many hours of time and lots of expenses incurred by some of our club members that the club is not even attempting to cover. Mileage, fuel, a plethora of beekeeping sundries that our cut-out team members are constantly paying for themselves. (After doing the prep-work for Robert's taxes, I was shocked at how much he spent on behalf of DCB. Just to share a bit....87% of his mileage alone was for DCB purposes. That is a heck of a lot of wear and tear on our only vehicle) The least we can do for the cut-out crew is reimburse their sundries and supplies needed to perform honey bee rescues AND/OR keep these supplies and sundries in stock for their use SINCE this is a service that DCB offers to the community for FREE.

DCB will not be investing in a Zoom business package for hosting virtual meetings at this time. The weather will soon be nice again and we will resume "meetings in the park" if the meeting facilities inside a building is going to continue to be restricted due to covid mandates.

Another reason is that there are, at present, only 18 members on the 2021 roster. There are 65 members on the roster for 2020 so you can see what the issue is here.

The form used for DCB to assess cut-out locations/situations has been modified. All the redundancies in it have been eliminated, the questions have been more stream-lined. A note book for these assessments has been set up for Robert to keep track of in 2021, a copy of the new form was given to Phil for him to scan into his computer for his use, and ALL forms, whether or not we perform a cut-out on an assessment will be turned into the secretary for safe-keeping and tax purposes to prove the community use of our services (something that our 501C3 status requires us to do)

Permission was given to the secretary to use the DCB debit card to buy office supplies for DCB the next time she needed to replenish her own business' office supplies. (Beau has been keeping a tally of the copies that she has needed to print, using her paper and ink) Beau used her own sympathy card....she wants to buy some for DCB, and there is only one little packet of Thank You cards in the DCB supplies. It was suggested and accepted that DCB should also get some Get Well Soon cards.

Secretary report:

January brought in 16 membership renewals and 2 brand new members. Please, send in your payment and the completed membership form via snail mail to the address listed below. I will, again, attach the membership form that you need to use so that you can print it out for yourself. This form has been updated to include 2 questions. Please be mindful to mark if you wish to be included on the swarm list for 2021. If you leave that blank, I will not put you on this list.

Our FB page reached 798 people last month!!!!

I will be discontinuing using the 2020 membership list to send meeting minutes or these newsletters in place of meeting minutes at the end of February 2021....that means if your renewal dues are not here by then, you will not be receiving these newsletters/minutes. The new 2021 membership list will be used for the March minutes/newsletter.

Treasurer report:

Our tax filings for 2020 are complete. CT-12 to the state along with the DCB Constitution and By-laws updates, and the N-990 form for the Federal were finalized 1/24/21. (I'll pat myself on the back...this is a first for DCB....it isn't late!) The CT-12 report submitted with the \$20.00 DCB debit card payment of \$20.00. No filing fee was needed for the N-990 form.

Our bank balances are as follows for 1/31/21: Checking \$2,892.31 There were 13 membership renewals totalling \$156.00, Fred Meyer Rewards for \$26.90 and another Costco employees

donation for \$52.50 . The expenses were \$44.00 for OSBA Affiliation dues, \$28.97 to Joann's for the home show door prizes, and the \$20.00 for the State of Oregon tax filing fee. The savings account has a balance of \$2,062.00 Robert went to Glide to do an assessment of a honey bee colony that was discovered in a tree that was cut down. He helped them get it situated so that the bees might have a better chance to survive until Spring, when something can actually be done to rehome them. The customer(s) wished to pay Robert for his work, but he said no and if they felt so inclined, to please donate it to DCB at which time one man pulled out a \$50.00 and the other man handed him \$12.00 . Great Job, Robert! These \$62.00 were deposited into the savings account and I am now subsequently accounting for a new category in the savings account titled Cut-out Crew funds. (different than the Equipment funds) And will be reserved for what the Cut-out crew needs.

I do have to make a note here to disclose that the bank accounts are not yet confirmed via the January 2021 statement. It looks like the bank issues our statements in the middle of the month. I will be calling Umpqua Bank in the morning to get this changed to an end of the month statement. I like things to be proper and not have all these transactions hanging out there for me to keep track.

On a side note: If anyone wishes to respond back to DCB via these emails, PLEASE do not so by clicking on the "BCC" button.... Your response will go to EVERYONE openly. We don't want that to happen... EVERYONE does not want to see your response. It clogs up the email account too. BEST and most desired way to send the response back is to do it back to the ["douglascountybees.org"](mailto:douglascountybees.org) address. ONE letter will be sent back to us not 44 or 23. ok?

Thank you, everyone for being so supportive of your Bee Club.

Beau Miakinkoff ~ secretary/treasurer