

Douglas County Bees
Monthly General Meeting
June 1, 2022

Abby's Annex

Robert Baune called the meeting to order at 6:00pm –maybe a few minutes earlier
29 people were in attendance (with 5 being first time attendees.)

2 people excused themselves from the meeting – more to follow on this

Robert asked the visitors and first time attendees to introduce themselves and let us know what type of hive they are using to keep bees if they are already beekeepers.

About this time in the meeting, Beau got a swarm report call in! She took down the information and offered the swarm up to the attendees at the meeting. Going once, going twice.... if you want this swarm, its yours...go now, or I'm going to put it on the swarm call alert out to the members... A member in attendance claimed it and scooted out of the meeting!

Robert resumed the meeting.... discussing the up-coming cut-outs that are scheduled. There were 6.

Meeting interrupted again with Beau's phone going off..... it is another swarm report call. Again, it was offered up for grabs to the attending members Going one, going twice...seriously, if you want this swarm of bees say so now and go get it, if none of you want them I'll put it on the DCB Swarm Alert to the members..... it was claimed. Another attendee of the meeting scooted out, excited to go scoop up the bees!

Robert turned the meeting over to Beau for the treasurer and secretary reports. There is \$3,044.18 in the checking account and the savings account remains unchanged with \$2,009.32 We incurred expenditures of office supplies (printer ink) New DCB business cards, and facility rent. Incoming funds were for dues and donations. We have 57 members, 42 of them on the swarm call alert, and 26 pm the cut-out waiting list with 17 still to receive a colony. Beau mentioned there are still 3 Queen Bee gift certificates from Old Sol Apiary (in Rogue River) available to purchase. They are \$43.00 each.. There is not expiration date. A call will be made to Shastina re: donations to DCB for the 2022 Fair.

Linda Jensen and Ivory Los Banos (event chair and event chair assistant) gave us an update on the Blooms and Butterflies, the Lavender Festival, and the DC Fair volunteers to staff the DCB Booth. Also an update on the Sutherlin Blackberry Festival and the Winston Melon Festival. Another email will be sent out to the members with the schedule of the time slots needed to be filled for the events we are already going to attend and we are still waiting to hear back from

the coordinators of the Blackberry and Melon festivals to learn if we will be included. So stay tuned for 2 more events happening in August and September to be added to the schedule. The DCB Facebook page is being improved upon. Beau has populated the “services” portion. And has an understanding now of where the “missing” posts are going. Pages are so much more cumbersome to manage than Groups are.

Robert brought up the observation that the blackberries are in bloom all around Douglas County right now. It arrived early this year. This impacts our bees. Dearth is officially here when the blackberries are finished blooming. So be on the alert to have to FEED your bees. Help them get enough food stored so that they can get through the fall months and survive winter. This is an important step in helping your bees overwinter and still be here for you next Spring. Lets be better beekeepers and raise the survival rate of our colonies.

This also means that our cut-out schedule is in crunch time. We have limited weekends available now to save the bees. We will be trying to schedule the easy ones (the ones not needing scaffolding) during the weekdays saving weekends for the more complicated rescues. There will be cut-outs scheduled for Saturday and Sunday for the more complicated jobs. We welcome anyone that does not have a 9 – 5 job that is able to work in high places on scaffolding – if need be — to help our cut-out crews during the weekdays. At the time of this meeting, we had 6 cut-outs to schedule. As of the time of writing these minutes of the meeting, we have 8. Beau mentioned during the meeting that Douglas County Bees has THE best cut-out crews in the whole state. And you ALL truly are The Best! It has taken us 2 years to achieve this level of efficiency at cut-outs. I, (Beau) is so very proud of all of you. Your passion to rescue and save these little creatures with the utmost loving care that you put into it shows. Douglas County Bees has a respected name and a recognized service to the community because of it. We would not be at this level without our Cut-Out Crew!

A round robin style of Q&A with those in attendance offered up some interesting Qs with fun As. I love this club. You all have wonderful sense humors...or is it wonderful senses of humor? All I can say is the meeting was fast and fun. Sometimes I think an hour is not long enough to cover everything.

Oh, Kent Wallace won the dinner raffle. <3

Robert called for any more Qs or new items and none were offered. Robert adjourned the meeting at little early too...I think with 10 minutes remaining.

See you all next month....if not sooner at a cut-out!

Beau Miakinkoff ~ secretary/treasurer