

Meeting Valley Bees 2 May 2021

Meeting started 1.30pm. Erin welcomed everyone, incl Ken Bannister from Northside Beekeeping.

Apologies Sara and Howie, Glenbo et al, Reg and Marj, Tom C

Minutes of previous minutes on website.

Lyn moved, Len seconded, that minutes from previous meeting are accurate.

Correspondence.

IN

email from Ken Bannister

Laini bought a top bar hives, has talked to Scott; she was pointed to Holistic Hives; Ken has 'horizontal' hives. Vic pointed out that top bar bees would struggle to make honey in difficult conditions.

OUT

Alan Rainbow re sale of Honeybee Cottages. New potential owners alerted to our presence, and are supposedly happy with us being here. May need to fence our area depending on clientele.

Maree moved, Dana seconded that correspondence be received and endorsed. Carried.

Treasurer's Report

MRCCC account 4642.99

Bendigo account 3210.60

Petty cash 100.00

Total 7953.59

Maree moved treasurer's report be accepted. Bill seconded. Carried.

General business

Gympie Show. 13-15 May.

\$71 for 500 business cards. Get 1000 business cards. Pauline moved Vic seconded that we order 1000 cards.

Robyn putting together static display re native bees. Has attended QBA planning meeting. Derek and Lyn, Peter and Vic with display hive for few hours Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Bee hotel from woodworkers on display (belongs to Maree). Vic will bring empty honey bee hives for photo frames. Robyn has display boards, photos from Glenbo, and photo frames etc for Wednesday 12 May set up.

Erin. Newsletters from other clubs. Erin to ask permission, and perhaps put newsletters on our website.

June 13 meeting 1pm will have election of office bearers, and decision about Open Day in following meeting.

Landcare report - Vic. 20 participants. Rain held off. Still a lot of keen new people. Focus on bee management in autumn; good beekeeping to always consider the needs of bees. Requeened hives have settled down. Participants given a little pot of honey. Next month, focus on making frames and boxes. Landcare bees laden with pollen.

Vic. Honey a bit scarce except paperbark sites. Blue gums budding nicely.

Honey bee farm - Mark. Hives doing well enough, but not making much honey. Injured queen working well.

May 15 (Gympie Show) so workshop postponed to May 22.

Flow hive - Mark. Landcare has new queen and hive is very calm. Pine Flow boxes have a bit of dry rot despite good paint layers. Honeybee Farm hive is working very well.

Erin. Guardian small hive beetle trap, looks like a pollen trap. Pauline reported that bees plug holes up. Mark will have a look.

Native bees - Bill. 18 months ago, hooked hives up to a log at Landcare, and there is now brood. One newish Landcare hive has died out. Other hives gradually being budded. Robyn asked how to renovate a used Chris Fuller English-style hive. Bill thought cavity was too large. And whether native bees' entrance needs protection from rain, and whether native bees need a landing pad below the elbow entrance. Derek remarked that one of the Landcare budding hives was one built by Robyn at one of Derek's workshops.

Solitary bees - Robyn. Solitary bees slowing down for the winter.

Top Bar Hives - Scott away today.

Ken Bannister reported on Northside beekeeping group. Speaking to Moreton council for land for shed/hall for 120 members at a meeting. Want to be able to do courses. 300+ members. His club does free field days, and annual membership \$40 single. Redcliffe Show on 25 June; wanted photos. Put Ken onto Glenbo. QBA had same sort of thing at Ekka. Valley Bees members happy for Ken to approach Glenbo. Planning a honey hut for club hives and education, not for lending. Ken sells \$22 kg honey with glass jars and vinyl labels. Return customers with their glass jars.

Raffle. Meeting ended 3.00pm.