

NW PA MAPLE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 11, 2013

The regular meeting was held at Bill and Marge Phillips home on Oct. 11th. Attending were: Burton and Ruby Kimball, Jason and Trisha Palmer, Bill and Marge Phillips, Gary and Shirley Bilek, Chris Casbohm, Jim Bortles, Daryl Sheets, Laura Dengler, Greg Walberg, Tami and Jeff Ellsworth, and Lew Steckler.

President, called the meeting to order at 7pm. Minutes of the August 10th meeting were reviewed. Daryl made a motion to accept seconded by Jim and passed. A written treasurer's report was passed out and discussed. Current balance is \$42,049.24. LEME account balance \$2196.70. Motion to accept by Laura seconded by Jason and passed.

OLD BUSINESS: Reports on maple booths at Crawford County Fair and Wattsburg Fair. Plenty of helpers. good weather but a few rainy days at Wattsburg. Sales at Crawford \$7023.54 : Wattsburg \$2459.33. Burton reported that cotton candy machine returned and very well cleaned.

Discussion on lifetime and honorary membership in the association. Honorary is for only one year without payment. Dues paid by the association if your work a full shift at a fair.

Lengthly discussion about competition at Crawford County Fair. Specifically the sale of maple syrup at other places vs sale at our NW booth. Come to the next meeting with your thoughts and opinions on this matter.

Marge reminded members of Taste and Tour for 2014 of March 15 and 16. An information sheet was passed out and reviewed. This is a good checklist and very helpful for first year sugar houses in T&T. A letter will be sent out soon to those participating last year. Send info., sugar house photo, and money to Phillip's. T&T information will also be available at LEME and our annual meeting in January.

Laura reported on Maple Royalty(NW Maple queen). Stephannie, the past years queen, did a great job in telling others of our great maple products at many local events.

After discussion it was moved by Gary and seconded by Marge to pay \$250.00 for her expenses and a stipend of \$500 for a job well done. This motion was passed.

In a related matter, Laura made a motion for the association to pay \$50.00 for refreshments at the Maple Museum on Nov. 10th. The state Maple queen will be there.

This motion was seconded by Jason and passed.

NEW BUSINESS: LEME 40 to 50 pre-registered more dealers than last year. State mailing is nearly ready to be sent. Vendors are making donations to assist(PA Farm Bureau coffee and donuts for Sat. morning) Estimated attendance of 500 this year.

Annual meeting committee chaired by Laura reported that Jan. 18th will be the date of our annual meeting at Blooming Valley church from 9am until 2pm. Lunch will include pancakes (applause by Burton!). Local maple equipment dealers will be invited. Agenda to include inspection by PA Dept. of AG., hydrometer testing, different methods of filtering. etc. Please pre-register.

Any action on BY-Laws tabled until all have had a chance to review and comment.

Dec. meeting will again be at Eagle Hotel in Waterford. Motion was made by Gary and seconded by Jim for association to pay for meals. Motion passed. Marge will check if Thursday Dec. 5th at 6pm is available.

Farm Show workers needed for state maple booth. Hotel paid and milage. Also send syrup to sell. They sold out last year. (85% if working 75% non-working). Jim found new milkshake machine (\$215.00 with 3 heads). Thanks Jim.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50. Thanks to Marge and Bill for the refreshments.

Next meeting Nov. 14 at Phillips.

Lew Steckler
Secretary