

Ashe County Beekeeping Association  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
6/11/15

1. The meeting was held at 7:00 PM on June 11, 2015...attendance not recorded.
2. Officers present – Randy Baldwin, Helen Baldwin and Fowler Bush.
3. Randy announced a reminder that NCSBA is asking for pictures, stories, news, etc., from chapters to use on their web site (*Helen has submitted photos and chapter news but don't remember if she did it before or after the June meeting*).
4. Randy shared the following Bee Aware update from Jenny Fitzpatrick:  
*We got our bees installed in our Grandfather Mountain Honey Bee Habitat last week and the kids are all excited about learning to care for them. Unfortunately, we are still waiting for the NC Senate to vote on our plate and pass it as a bill. We were told that this was going to happen around May 1<sup>st</sup>. Our senator says that the senate has been working hard all spring to pass a state budget. He feels like this will finally be accomplished by the end of this week and then he will be able to ask for this to be on the schedule. We have been inundated with phone calls and emails lately about the plate. I wish we knew a solid date to tell everyone but that is not how our government works. We have been told that once the plate passes as a bill it will be 1-2 months until the plates are produced.*
5. There was a brief discussion of swarms and locust flow, both of which seemed unusually heavy to several members this year.
6. Joy selected 4 YouTube swarm-removal videos from TheBeeMan as the presentation. One video demonstrated the use of a vacuum, and Randy shared his own experience using one (lots of bee deaths upon being sucked up before he placed a rag on the inside where the bees were hitting).
7. At the conclusion of the videos, Greg Fariss stood up and introduced himself as an apiary inspector from the NC Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. He said he would be happy to speak at a meeting if we were interested, so Mike Haworth, board member who helps with program planning, discussed a time with Greg. It was decided that the August meeting (13th) would be a good date.
8. Meeting was adjourned.