

CORE July 2026 Minutes

Tuesday, July 7, 2026

6pm - 8pm

UP Civic Building – 2nd floor Conference Room

3609 Market Place W – take elevator up to 2nd floor

Attendees in person and online: Asuka Ludden, Debie Klosowski, Kelly Radford, Rick Mercier, Barry Crust, Nhagara Hayes, Rich Knowles, Guzzo Jackson, Monty Stranski, Sydney Hennessy, Bill Horn, Kay Townsend, Kris Docherty

Approval of Minutes: approved for June 2026

Treasurer's Report - Budget balance Updates \$17,441.37(outstanding expenses pd – concert banner and fence banner promoting adoptions) Jackson was asked to replace the pruning banner with the concert banner.

Staff Report-

Update on Sprays and Mulch requests : Mulch has been delivered to barn, Water spicket replaced at the barn with in -ground shut off with freezing protection. It received a positive response from those that have used it.

Credit Card in person option-Tony responded to the acceptance of credit cards. Finance will take credit cards for tree adoptions in person only.

Cider Squeeze support from the city will be Erik Ramstead who replaces Suzie. He worked on previous orchard events. Prior to the Squeeze, we will need to meet in with him.

Rick was concerned about spraying notification not being received. They however did post the upcoming spray on the gates. Debbie asked if CORE could be notified in advance of the spraying.

Volunteer Hours-118.75

Adoptions- Kris

Update on adoptions CORE-57 Adopters-72, Free trees 12 = 141

We need to set a policy regarding switching trees once assigned. This season there were two issues. We can support adopters with apples if they do not have many apples. I discovered an adopter's name on their new and last year's tree. I told them there was an error. They chose the new tree. The consensus is that there will be no switching trees. Adopters can choose their trees which adopters have done at start of season.

An Email will be sent to remind adopters to tape and hang "Adopters will pick" or No Picking" signs on their trees. The group reviewed where the NEON tape can be found some in barn , Home Depot, Amazon, and Dollar stores.

****I welcome inquiries by phone and email regarding tree assignments etc. Regarding the tree assignment, I did reserve the tree, but the city forgot to send me an application. Applications help with spelling, dollar amount paid and tree name plus I document that the sign group was been informed and the adopter has been added to the adopter email group.**

Tree Care

Insect Report-Debbie/Rich- The new count 6/23/26 shows coddling moth numbers still high. As a result, in the increased coddling moth numbers the contractor is switching to Delegate for the July 10th spray. Bill suggested that prior to the next spray there be a count. He explained if larva is in apple there could be an additional hatch. Weather fluctuations can be attributed to the increased numbers. Debbie decided to do a final count before the Cider squeeze. Due to Debbie's schedule away from UP, she could use help for the count prior to the next spray. Rich volunteered to help her. The insect reports by Rich are very helpful in giving a complete picture of what is happening in the orchard.

Thinning-numerous notices sent to adopters for thinning(more than once). Debbie has thinned high density

twice and it's doing better. She did several of the tour trees but cannot remember if she did them all. For those completed she tried to keep low hanging fruit for the tours. She suggested that Kay, Kelly and Amy check what trees she signed as completed. They could complete the thinning were not done.

Robert Sweet height pruning contract- Roberts' wife is having health issues so contract paperwork has not been submitted to city. Without city approval he cannot honor the contract. Debbie let him know we can wait.

Proposal- Rich Due to the city unable to support the moving of mulch, and branches, Rich is proposing the purchase of a power-driven Wheel barrel. The average cost would be \$1300. 3 varieties were presented 10 cubic foot-3 wheels, smaller with 4 wheels and 3 wheels with removable sides. These are all electric. CORE confirm that the need is there. Before proceeding with further discussions. We need to know about city liability, storing a privately owned wheel barrow in barn and whether it can be part of a budget request to the city for the orchard. Rich will send PDFs to the group on the wheel barrels.

Barry proposed a fund raiser for the Orchard for tools at the concerts. Regarding trees in the orchard with holes in trunks that were tested for stability, Barry feels 34-1 needs caution tape and cones around it so no one can sit under it. Another tree dropped a limb prior to the start of last year's concert. Jackson will make sure that is done prior to the next concert on the 23rd.

Cider Squeeze-Saturday AUGUST 22 8:30 set up Event 10-2 Takedown 2-4:30

Signage-Debbie checked out commercial signs, but they were \$38 dollars apiece. \$1000 bill seems extreme with the other needs. Asuka volunteered to work with Debbie to update signs we have used.

Press Operator updates, training sessions-7 presses confirmed with only one needing training

Volunteer Coordination – 20-30 volunteered

- we need someone to go to the Curtis High School to obtain volunteers. We need a flyer to have available during registration of all grades. It will help us to get clarification from the high school if summer hours count -**Amy and Kay** Best Day to attend is when the sophomores register.

Parents will come with this class as this is start of their high school experience. They will make sure their student gets involved as they have the school's expectations.

- High School volunteers will call **Kelly 608-280-1370** to fill specific jobs. We should remind them to sign in and out plus hours worked. There is a new verification procedure starting this year. We will need a document to confirm their participation and hours.

- volunteer list will be managed by **Asuka at Cider Squeeze**-adult volunteers need to sign in and out along with hours. These are Orchard hours that help the city.

Sign IN table will have tree maps, picking bags, volunteer sign-in ,chips for priority entry to pressing area and name tags-Kay, Kris, Kati

Water/Jugs/ apple bags - **Charles?** Kati?

Wash Station- **Abbey ?**and 6 girl scouts

Gate Keeper-to wash station only 2 bags per person-**Asuka**

Using Chips priority for those with appointments not walk ins

Gate Keeper for presses- **BARRY**

Barn-food distribution to pressers and volunteers-?

Gopher-**Dave** press help-**Nhagara**

Mash collection-? volunteers

Pouring Stations volunteers

Bags of apples from High Density to supplement adopters or for walk in request-**\$5.00**

Food Bank-distribution after squeeze

Appointments adopters and public-Lynsie 125-170 slots with 4 slots per hour

Expect 40% public, **using CORE Gmail for appointments requests**

August 15th adopter deadline, Open to the public 17-21 appointments

PR- Do we promote this for the public? **Yes** City Newsletter, Cascadia, and Bridgeport Neighborhood

Website- Lynsie

No major updates at this time.

Information regarding the cider squeeze will be added as it becomes available.

Design Contest:

-CORE reviewed the survey results and selected a winning design.

-The group discussed various t-shirt options.

-Notifications will be sent to all contestants in July

-next steps includes contacting the t-shirt company to create mockups with the winning designs and obtaining cost estimates.

Duck Daze-Asuka Represented the Orchard 9-3pm

Concerts-CORE sign up?

-Donation Box for orchard tools/Adoption info/cider Squeeze -**BARRY**

-Sponsorship Caldwell Bank + 3 additional companies

Other

UP Historical Museum will be open 30 minutes prior to each concert . **Their restroom is not available for concert participants.**

Save the date-August 21 9am harvesting high-density apples

Next meeting: Wednesday, July 29, 2026, potluck at 5:15 and meeting starts at 6pm