

CORE April 2025 Agenda

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

UP Civic Building – 2nd floor Conference Room

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

Attendees: Debbie Klosowski, Bill Horn (master gardener), Rich Knowles, Jill Worthington, Robert Sweet, Annette Kruzic, Jackson Guzzo, Jessica Hannity, Rick Mercier (Bee Keeper),

Approval of Minutes -for March approved

Treasurer's Report – Current Bank Balance \$14,555.14 we are still pending Jessica and Robert's final bills. Good news Debbie announced that UP with Art will donate a \$1000 for our concerts.

Volunteer Hours – Orchard volunteer hours were **326**.

Staff Report- Sprays, Status storm/water project, Fence completion is pending. Storm Drain project should be completed in a month. Rick asked Jackson to narrow down when the next sprays would be. Last year it was thought the sprays were 6/3 or 5/24. There was a concern about the last spray that was done within a couple hours before it rained. Bill thought a minimum of 1 hour of dry weather is all that is necessary for the Fungicide to take. Bill suggested doing a visual for bugs before trees are sprayed. Rick let Jackson know before the next series of sprays that he needs time to remove the bees.

Website - Congratulations Sydney as she is getting married and moving to London. We will need to find a replacement for her.

Adoption Updates

Adoptions-Kris total adoptions 124. Core to prune 57+6T=63 Adopters to Prune 57 total pruned 50 Based on three lists on barn checked off the lists- priority list 26, unadopted priorities trees 15, and Debbie completed 9.

Kiosk updates/Tree Maps-Rich is taking care of the kiosk and updating the maps.

Tree Tags- Barry/Rich All the tags are completed

Student volunteer tree recipients- Jill reported that this year's winner of a tree based on his volunteer hours informed her that he would rather not have a tree.

***PRUNING Parties-**

- March 15th and 29th Pruning Party recap- When the weather is great, we can get a lot of pruning done. Turn was good

-Overall tree assessment-one of our contractors may need more guidance if used next year.

-High Density/Espalier status-Monty and Patricia worked on this section. Jackson confirmed this area was sprayed with the last spray. Curran sign was done.

-Contract updates: status: Jessica /Jane's contract is completed with the counting of the test tree as initially ladder not allowed. They had insurance so that was our error. Robert Sweet needs to check with Annette if contract submitted.

Mason Bees-Rick delivered 7500 to 8000 bees to the orchard

Insect Trap hanging dates-scheduled for May 3 at 9:00 am. We will do the same plan as last year hanging the lures for coddling moth and apple maggots. This year we will add the high-density section for the same items and monitoring. This is a reminder to those that volunteered to be there at 9:00am.

Grafting

Email adopters re Grafting Process- Spring Grafting Show-any feedback?

-Andy Matelich grafting session-Rick M-the grafting went well. They could have had more observers. They grafted 8 Kings and 3 Melrose (mid to late bloom but not a pollinator). Rick asked if anyone was willing to take care of the trees for a year. Bill stated these grafted trees would not be ready for planting for 2 years. Jessica volunteered to foster these future orchard trees.

***NEW Trees Planting – Planting and fence updates-** Rich states the trees have been planted by volunteers. The 6ft fence is up. Area around tree was limited by the amount of fence available. The area can be expanded later for better root growth. There was a question did the new trees need fertilizer. Bill said fertilizer is not needed initially. Robert Sweet suggested using Boron as recommended in past due to soil testing of the orchard **soil**. The roots are spread out about a foot so adding ¼ cup to new trees would be sufficient. Historically the ground testing identified that the orchard needed borax which we do have in the barn. Mulch availability was explored and requested from Jackson.

Concerts-Sue (Bands, banner, publicity.....UP for Art donation) Sue still getting line up set. Debbie read a letter from a new Adopter. Josh Cherry and wife attended the last pruning party. They were impressed with the turn out and the availability of instruction and assistance. He is willing to donate a couple banners. He filmed the orchard with drone with the idea of creating a time lapse visual of the orchard throughout the year. It could be used to promote the orchard.

Tours- Jill announce that she is moving out of the area at the end of April. Besides the tour she handled the recruitment of many volunteers now and in the for cider squeezes past and present plus pruning parties. She coordinated all our volunteer activities and obtained permission slips for school age volunteers to help in the orchard. Jill and Barry set up a student volunteer contest based on hours to earn a tree for their family. Jill will be greatly missed. Jill is willing to help with training with hopes it is soon. Without a replacement there would be no tours next fall. We all need to help with recruitment. They must be a good fit for working with children and adults.

Other?

Future topics:

---Thinning

---Discussion regarding max limit and/or fee increases for 2026

Next Meeting: Tuesday May 6th 6 pm-8pm