

CORE July Minutes
Tuesday, July 11, 2023
6pm -8pm

UP Civic Building – 2nd floor Conference Room
3609 Market Place W – take elevator up to 2nd floor

Attendees in person and on Microsoft team: Barry Crust, Monty Stranski, Patricia Stranski. Alecia Cunningham(Parks commissioner), Bill Horn(Master Gardner), Rick Mercier, Debbie Klosowski, Jill Worthington, Josie Navarro, Tony West (Parks Maintenance supervisor), Sue Gurley, Kris Docherty

Welcome to CORE Josie, Alecia, and Sonja

Approval of Minutes-approved

Treasurer's Report -\$16,982.65-Sweets submitted their pruning contract for about \$1800.

Volunteer Hours – Orchard 16.0 and Administrative(routed list for administrative hours)7.0

Staff Report- Tony - June insecticide spray was done on the 24th. Irrigation update –project is 100% done and tested for ½ the orchard which included the High -Density area. The Systems are all working great. The question was asked about when would the other ½ be done. This first ½ was covered by the 23-24 city budget. The second ½ would need a request for the 25-26 budget. Tony will see what is available for this budget cycle. A question was asked when the Espalier behind barn would be done. It is a priority for Tony as it is on its own zone. Tony stated he believes it can be done soon. Fence replacement will be done later. Fence replacement will start with Brookside side of the orchard. Status of the Dead Tree- it is a winter banana. It is partially alive so will watch the tree.

Website - n/a

Orchard Maintenance

-Insect Report – Debbie reported on the increase in apple maggot and coddling moth count as of 6/25/23 per section: **Section 1** (rows 1-7) 35 to 45 apple maggots, 2 to 4 coddling moths, **section 2** (rows 11-17)went from 100 apple maggots to 116 , 9 coddling moths to 31, **section 3** (rows 24-27) 59 apple maggots to 73, 5 coddling moths to 21, **Section 4**(rows30-36) 42 apple maggots to 44, 5 coddling moths to 7. Debbie asked Tony if he could voice CORE's concern to the spray company about the increased insects. Debbie noted that it looks like there will be a good harvest. She saw no visible apple damage and little windfalls.

-Spray Update - Rick (core spray liaison)believes increased insects may be related to late insecticide spray.

-Email to adopter regarding taping trees if they want to harvest their tree. In addition to taping signs should be posted around the tree. Example: DO NOT PICK ADOPTER WILL PICK Debbie will tape her tree and put the signs on it. She will take a picture of it. She will forward it to Kayla W to forward to the adopters. I can forward to core members only.

Cider Squeeze Discussion (see attachment)- There was a discussion then a decision on whether to have a Cider Squeeze. Rick and Debbie called our old press list, Meeker days and Steilacoom attempting to get enough presses for the squeeze. They were only able to find 5 which included our two presses. Three of the presses were confirmed for the community squeeze. Debbie will check if they will be available for an adopter squeeze on Saturday, Aug 19. Bill Horn might be able to get 2 additional presses. It was decided that this year we would have a squeeze for the adopters only by a limited number of appointments based upon the number of available presses and necessary volunteers. Adopters will be given a phone number to call in for an appointment to Jill Worthington. There are 104 trees adopted. Adopters will get 15 minutes to accommodate as many adopters as possible. One slot per tree. The cut off will be August 12th. On the 27th there will be a community apple picking day. Sue will order a sign announcing community apple picking day on the 27th adding the Cider Squeeze is cancelled. We will use the high-density apples for adopters when their apples are not ripe on the 19th. The high-density area apple trees were planted to support the cider squeeze. Core and Volunteers will pick and bag the high-density apples on August 18th 9 am to 1pm. With these decisions, there are some issues to address. City has announced on the city publication the date of the Cider squeeze. We need a correction to go out and update our website stating no Community Cider squeeze.

--Larry has volunteered to train volunteers on how to operate the apple presses. Monty will take the responsibility for coordinating the training and presses.

Viking Days Aug 15 and 16 (registration days Curtis)- We will provide information to the High School regarding the opportunities for earning volunteer hours in the orchard. Volunteer hours requirements are back. Attending Vikings days has not resulted in getting volunteers. Their verification system must have changed as we are not getting High School contacting us for confirmation of hours. From experience, the sophomore days are the best recruiting days as students are generally with an adult. The parents can be given our information when they learn the community service requirement hour requirements for each year.

Concert Updates - The attendance was good at the first concert. We congratulated Sue for her band selection as all the feedback was that the music was enjoyed by all. There was a request for locating a porta potty at the bottom of the orchard. The only porta potty is located near the barn which requires a hike up a hill. Core requested an additional disability porta potty during the concert season. We are anticipating at the next concert a van of residents for a local senior facility.

Future Topics:

- Tours
- PowerPoint Revision for website
- 2024 Orchard Brochures

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 1