

**CORE Minutes**  
**Tuesday, Feb. 7, 2023**  
**6pm -8pm**

**3609 Market Place W – take elevator up to 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

**Attendees:** Patricia Stranski, Monty Stranski, Barry Cust, Rick Mercier, Jill Worthington, Bill Horn (master gardener) Debbie Klosowski, Tony West(Parks Maintenance Supervisor), Kris Docherty

**Approval of Minutes:** January minutes approved with a correction.

**Treasurer's Report** Balance: through 1/31/23 was \$14269.15.

**Volunteer Hours** – January Orchard hours 64.0 and Administrative 22.0 *December Orchard hours corrected to 20.5.*

**Staff Report-** Tony .(CC response to CORE letter) Help Preserve the Park signs were presented to the group. There are 8 signs. Tony would like 2 to put aside in case of vandalism. Core recommendation for the placement of the signs was as follows: Grandview, Brookside, Rock Road, fence line between Historical Society Museum and the upper part of the orchard, at the barn , and the bandstand. Tony reported RCO grant request was not approved. It would have paid for a restroom, new playground, clean wetlands, interpretive center, disability parking stalls, paved path to bandstand and repairing fence on Brookside. Tony said the request to council for upgrades for the irrigation and fence is still under consideration by the council.

**Website** - Debbie had Lori make changes based on feedback from the pruning party attendees Please review the website and give us any additional feedback.

#### **Orchard Maintenance**

-Tree Pruning Contract – Family Tree Care (42 trees were done in Jan for \$2,530 ) It was a great job and volunteers have been picking up the many branches.

--Robt Sweet Contract proposal --Robert still needs to provide the City with a written quote and proof of liability coverage as required by the City.

-core pruning list is posted on the Barn door and in the three-ring binder.

-Pruning Party- Recap of Sat, Feb. 4-sparsely attended. There were no volunteers from the High School.

Remaining Parties: Feb 18, March 4 and 18

--Pruning Banner – Tony and crew put it up

- Kayla was asked to send an email to remind adopters before each pruning day. We can remind adopters that the orchard is open for pruning during the week.

-Debbie has sent press releases to the city, suburban times, up patch etc.

*There was voiced a concern that we need more support in the orchard from the adopters and volunteers. Adopters should be informed of the need for additional assistance for other trees in the orchard.*

-Spray Schedule - Rick said spraying is on track. Middle of March based on weather anti-fungal will be administered then the bees can be placed in the orchard. The need for communication on planned sprays would be helpful. Knowing when the sprays will be administered will be helpful for the safety of the bees. Bees can be removed in a couple hours.

#### **Tree Adoptions 2023**

-Update on Adoptions – Kayla W. A problem occurred when several renewal requests were returned to senders. We determined that the PO box was not renewed and subsequently renewed it. Affected adopters were notified that the problem was fixed. There are currently 88 adoptions.

-Signs - Barry -all adoptions signs are up

-PO Box - Debbie-renewed PO box till March 2024. We never received a renewal request.

-Larry and Monty replaced 4 row posts

**-Pruning Class-**

-The question is should the Night Pruning Class be continued? The location might have been a hinderance as most attendees were CORE members. More central location might be helpful in increasing attendance. There was a suggestion that it be a more hands on activity of pruning for participants rather than going through slides. There was feedback that the Slides are helpful in addition to hands on activities. There are 4 Master gardeners wanting to participate during our pruning day. They want to get feedback from Robert.

**-Bee Class**

The class was well attended. 30 people attended the class The class lasted over 2 hours

**Other:**

Questions about availability of drinking water- there are two sources of city water in the Orchard. One is at the barn, and one is near bandstand that is used for the Cider Squeeze. There is no public access to well water which is designated and used only for irrigation.

**Concerts -Sue** unable to attend so tabled.

**March-** Tony will report on the City's irrigation Proposal

**Next Meeting: Tues, March 7, 2023**