

CORE Minutes May 3, 2022

Zoom Meeting – 6:00 pm

Attendees: Sue Gurley, Larry Warwick, Rick Mercier, Barry Crust, Debbie Klosowski, Bill Horn, Kayla Williams, Jack Ecklund guest speaker, Kris Docherty

Call to order 6:00-7:25

Approval of Minutes-minutes approved for posting

Treasurer's Report – Darwin was paid for height reduction and Rick Mercier paid for Pollination (mason bees) The total expenditure reported for the month was \$3,461.84. We received total of \$5060 adoption fees received for 2022, total in Orchard account is \$18,372.95

Volunteer Hours – Total Orchard and Administrative reported to the city was 120.5 hours

Staff Report- Tony speculated that the Survey Stake in upper orchard near the currant house was for the planning for ADA parking at Curran house. ADA Playground/restroom support letter from CORE needs to be turned in by June.

Website Update – check the website for recommended changes to new version.

Orchard Maintenance

— **Jack Ecklund, City of UP Director of Engineering and Capital Projects** spoke of proposed changes to the orchard. The City is applying for a grant to reconstruct the current children's play area to be ADA compliant, which will include seating wall for parents. In addition the proposal would add disability parking, full sidewalk on Brookside Way, a restroom plus 5-foot pathway to the bandstand for accessibility to all. There would be enhancements to the wetlands. A map of the proposed changes was present to CORE. The Orchard would lose 3 trees for the play area at the current site but they would be replaced. New trees would be planted in other areas of the Orchard. CORE sent a letter supporting these changes.

Jack Ecklund addressed the core concern regarding getting adequate water to the trees. Climate change is bringing hotter summers. There are some roadblocks to navigate. The water rights for the well are old it is running 22 hours a day but has been below capacity. CORE had asked about the possibility of a new irrigation system. The initial estimate given the city was \$316,000. There needs to be tests with on the existing system to assess the needs. CORE would like to explore additional input such as WSU or Eastern Washington orchards. Bill Horn volunteered to connect CORE/CITY with WSU contacts. There can be adjustments to where to increase water flow in the summer months. One area to increase water to would be the high-density area as these trees have shallow roots. There was a concern expressed that the mulching under the trees may be hiding irrigation problems. The new play area and restroom would allow us to access a water source other than the well but those changes hinge on grant approval. There are two TPU existing meters in the area. Meter updates will be discussed at the next meeting. This is a planning year as funds would be planned for in the to plan for the 2023-2024 budget.

--Spray Update (Rick) He reported sprays are on schedule. CORE members voiced concerns on the timing of the sprays. Spray applications effects when the Bees can be placed in the Orchard. This will be an agenda item for a future meeting in the fall.

--Mason Bee – Rick reported his bees are in the Orchard but not as active.

--Proposed purchase of new blades for pole saws- Ian Tabled

*2022 Tree Adoptions – Kayla W.

-Updated adoption & availability list- 2 new adopters requests just came in the mail. Names will be forwarded to Barry and Larry when processing is completed. Kayla will supply a list of types of trees and location that are not adopted. Pruning adoptions ended April 30th. Orchard Supporter adoptions continue through July 30.

*Orchard Activities

-Insect Class/Hanging Traps **May 7 from 9am-10am- Kayla will email will adopters to remind them of Bill's** Classes.

*Curtis HS Resource Fair Update – Jill -tabled

***Concert Update** – Sue successfully negotiated with the city to pay for the MC (Mike Hurwitz) instead of the food trucks.

We will promote the concerts as a time for picnics as no food trucks.

--Concert Dates, Publicity- Sue requested approval to spend \$1500 on concerts. Each musical group would be paid \$500. There will be one military Brass Band at no cost. CORE approved spending \$1500 for three bands. Sue has settled on four groups for 7/7 Thunderbirds, 7/14 Maia Santell and House Blend, 8/4 Clave con Jazz and 8/18 JBLM New Orleans Brass Band. Sue contacted the High School regarding back up venue due to weather issues.

--Forever Friends' Sculpture Dedication? Debbie will work with Forever Friends regarding for a date for the dedication at one of our concerts.

***Other**

--Cider Squeeze – Press Operator Response – Larry sent 19 letters and received 7 positive responses

--Thinning Work Party Sat, June 4 10am to noon (high density, espalier)

--**June 25** Saturday there will be a memorial for **Molly Wolfe** in the orchard. She was a volunteer chairman of the CORE committee. Her name is on the Barn plaque to acknowledge her years of support to the Orchard. Her family was so pleased to see her name on the plaque.

Next Meeting: Tues, June 7, 2022