

## **CORE Minutes-October 5**

### **Zoom meeting 6:00 PM**

Attendees: Barry Crust, Debbie Klosowski, Jill Worthington, Kayla Williams, Bill Horn, Larry Warwick, Robert Sweet, Ian Sweet, Rick Mercier, Sue Gurley, Kris Docherty

Approval of Minutes- September's minutes approved with the edits received.

Treasurer's Report –Total funds available \$17,155.05, expenses have been \$4,893.35, and adoptions fees totaled \$5045. There are pending invoices/expenses from Robert Sweet, Jill Worthington and Barry Crust

Volunteer Hours – Orchard 163 hours and Administrative

Staff Report- Nothing to report The City acknowledged receipt of the irrigation letter and indicated staff would be looking into it.

Website – no changes Webmaster will be doing updates when next years dates are submitted

#### **\*Orchard Activities**

Work Parties – We are averaging 18 volunteers from the High School. Parental permission slips have been posted on their website as a result volunteers are coming with the forms completed. Posted signs of volunteer day have brought in additional families to help. 50 % of the trees have mulch laid down under them. We will need more mulch after another volunteer day targeted for October 16<sup>th</sup>. ROTC calendar is full may have a day in December.

Future Work Parties – Dates to be announced tasks to be completed Tag removal and refreshing, wood signs removal, tape and trap removals, completing mulch under the remaining trees.

Gleaners – Debbie and Jill's assessment when they called was that there were not enough apples to make it worth their time.

Tours – Jill has two more tours last one scheduled for October 14th

**\*Harvest/Tree Survey Results**-there were 36 responses to the survey. We will be initiating next year a better way to reach adopters. They experienced a poor harvest from the Gravenstein trees. Apples were dropping which could be attributed to poor seed production. Coddling moths were present this year. Higher temperatures, Irrigation issues and spray timing could be factors. For the Gravensteins, we could be experiencing biennial bearing resulting in low production. An adopter has witnessed this cycle with their two trees.

#### **\*Adoption Brochure Revisions/Amount to order**

-500 brochures will be ordered for 2022

-Current adopters will receive priority to readopt their tree until January 1. Adoption fees for 2022-harvest season will remain the same. Pruning Adoptions (Dec-Mar 31) –\$45. Supporter Adoptions (available Dec-July 31) are \$70.

-Pruning dates: 1/29,2/12,2/26,3/5,3/19

-Insect class May 7<sup>th</sup> (preferable in person but can be done virtually)

-Thinning party June 4<sup>th</sup> This is for larger, healthy apples and avoid branch-breaking thinning is important. It was determined a day dedicated to this activity would be helpful for the adopters. We will have support available for this activity. Debbie will need help with the High Density trees.

-August 28<sup>th</sup> Apple Cider Squeeze (final decision to be decided based on COVID restrictions)

-Mason Bee – to be determined at later date

### **\*Orchard Maintenance**

--Spray Update/2022 Calendar Schedule- Rick to draft a letter regarding the dates of the spray in an effort to avoid the late spraying that occurred this year. It did not benefit the apple crop, as it was too late.

--Irrigation Update -Conversation with TPU stated 2 meters available on Grandview and Curran Lane. We will also continue discussions with WSU Pierce County Extension along with exploring viability of various options such as supplementing well water with TPU during the hotter summer months.

-Insect traps-- Bill suggested due to the supply chain issues it would smart to order the supplies earlier than January.

**Summer concerts-** In the past, Core has spent \$2000 for 4 concerts with one being free thanks to the military band. Due to required paper work and permits, a decision needs to be made by March whether to have the summer concerts. If the decision is made to have concerts Sue will need support for this activity. Sue will be out of state in the summer months. We need to someone to take the lead for the concert coordination if covid restrictions are lifted for the summer.

**Wood signs-**Barry Crust proposed the elimination of the white tags that identify the adopter's name on the trees. The white tags have the adopters name, row # and tree # plus type of tree. He is proposing to put the same information on wood signs that will be sealed with spar urethane. The tour trees will be his test trees for the fall and winter months. Barry welcomes comments. The Cost and time has not been determined. Larry Warwick has volunteer to deliver pieces left over from a cedar-fencing project to the barn for Barry.

**The white tags** are placed on the designated trees when the adoption fees are paid at no cost. Adopters do change from season to season and the trees assigned can change. Weather has faded the names. Refreshing the names and tags could be a volunteer activity. An adopter used a labeling tag on their sign. It did not fade. It can be peeled off if they do not readopt. Larry Warwick volunteered to contact the adopter to see what she used. He will check with his daughter regarding can one use a Cricut to create these labels. The Labeling cost and time has not been determined. Tags are being removed this month for maintenance. CORE will review the costs of wooden signs as well as how they hold up during the next few months. We will also review information on labeling machines and compare cost.

**Next Meeting: Tues, Nov. 2, 6pm Zoom**

