

CORE January Minutes

Tuesday, January 2, 2024

Microsoft team Meeting ID 273 687 066 716 password uV8wEJ or

Call in 509-342-7253 or attend in person

UP Civic Building – 2nd floor Conference Room

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

Jackson Guzzo (parks), Bill Horn (Master gardener), Debbie Klosowski, Jill Worthington, Rick Mercier, Rich Knowles, Barry Crust, Tony West, Sue Gurley, Kris Docherty

Approval of Minutes- December minutes approved with the addition of Barry Crust's name an attendee.

Treasurer's Report -Current balance of \$31,985.18.

Volunteer Hours – Orchard hours 78 I will need administrative hours sent to me for the report due 1/15/24.

Staff Report- Welcome was extended to Jackson Guzzo who is filling Tony's position that was vacated a year ago but not filled. Tony has been working two positions. With Jackson there will be 3 employees assigned to parks up from 2. Tony gave update on irrigation project. Upper part of the orchard is done. There were funds remaining that can be used for additional trees irrigation. Tony asked what trees CORE would like the city to focus on with the balance of the remaining funds. Core with Tony's observations decided on the 3 top rows starting with 28-29-30. Tony was asked about the repairs of the barn identified by Rich, Monty and Barry. They visited the barn's rotting wall and the water issues today. The city has available material put in a French drain for water drainage away from the base of the barn. This will be the project that can be done soon. In the summer, the wall repairs will be completed with city staff. Tony gave us the process that would be used to complete this project. A question was asked about the replacement of the windows. It was agreed that everyone wants the windows to stay but repaired. This would be a combination of glass and plexiglass.

Website - It was identified that on the website one of the pruning dates was on February 2nd which was a Friday. Debbie will get it corrected to February 3rd.

***Orchard Maintenance-review**

-1st spray- Rick January Spray dates have not been sent to Tony who has assumed the contact point for the spray contractor. (1st is the dormant spray)

-Family Tree Care Pruning is scheduled for Monday January 15th

-Pruning-Debbie

-insect traps-Debbie The traps have arrived costine \$531.00 which has already been submitted for payment.

***Tree Adoption Updates** -*Kayla was not in attendance to update any additional adoptions.*

Last meeting she had 10 renewals to report and submitted for tree signs. January is when new adopter applications are accepted, and trees r assigned.

-TREE Signs- Barry completed 12 signs so will need help. We have available 188 trees. Updating the signs will be a lot of work so will need help. Rich volunteered to help.

-Barry proposed to revisiting metal signs instead of wood signs. He has found galvanized steel sheet to test a sign. There is a concern dollar tree products might change by next year. The group decided to test new idea for a year before purchasing more sheets. There are 188 trees. Barry found a 2 pack of heavy-duty tarps 16x12 for \$19.00. Last year's material from Habitat for Humanity tore. He would like an okay to purchase another 2 pack from Costco. These tarps are for moving branches to the dumpsters. Core approved the purchase. Barry did some embellishment to the entrance of the barn with wood piece from an apple tree.

Banners-Sue banners will be completed this week. She will notify Jackson so that the city can hang the signs.

Jill - Chambers Bay Distillery has opened which used apple mash from the orchard

Student Volunteers/Boy Scouts-Barry, Jill, Monty- To encourage student volunteers, we are implementing an incentive to help the orchard get more student volunteers. Student volunteers can earn a tree for themselves and their family. The student with the most earned hours will be awarded a tree for the current season. Jill wants to open up the Saturdays that are not pruning days February 10th, 24th and March 9th. Jill will be signing in and out on those days to make sure the hours are accurate. She would like additional support on those days as no other people are scheduled to be in the orchard on those days. Sue, Barry and Kris volunteered

Wheelbarrows-it was decided to explore repairing the wheels rather than investing in new tires.

Sue reminded us that there is a tree policy for adding trees. She will send a copy to Debbie. This was regarding a question from a wedding event that asked to plant a tree.

Jill presentation of orchard activities to the City council was praised and well received.

Future topics

Feb 28-Master Gardner/Arborist- Robert Sweet will be working with a group of master gardeners in the orchard. Debbie asked Tony to make sure the spray contractor does not spray on that date.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 6th 6-8 pm