

CORE Minutes
Tuesday, March 1, 2023
6pm -8pm
UP Civic Building – 2nd floor Conference Room
3609 Market Place W – take elevator up to 2nd floor

Attendees: Larry Warwick, Barry Crust, Monty Stranski , Bill Horn (Master Gardener) Tony West (Parks Maintenance Supervisor), Jill Worthington, Steve Worthington (Mayor), Debbie Klosowski, Kayla Williams, Kris Docherty

Approval of Minutes-February minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report -Balance in our account is \$16,674.15 which includes tree adoptions of revenue \$4380 for 2023 . The Orchard only expense was from Family Tree Pruning Contract.

Volunteer Hours – Washington Administrative Code requires that the City of University Place report to L&I the names of Volunteer and the hours worked. To obtain administrative hours, I will route at each meeting the volunteer form for each member to fill in their administrative hours. I can capture the meeting times and orchard hours but not administrative hours. When sending out activity reminders, Kayla W will be asked to remind adopters to sign in and put in their hours when working in the orchard . **FEBRUARY Orchard hours were 150.5 Administrative hours 7 and meeting hours 2 hours.**

Website: QR code needs to be rebuilt. QR code worked prior to the signs being made. It was tested prior to sending to the sign being made. Tony verified it was not a printing error. Lori will be asked to create a new QR code which can be added to the signs using a sticker. The old QR code cannot be used.

Staff Report- Tony -6 of the Preserve our Park signs are up but QR code no longer works. Debbie will coordinate with Lori.

The Family Tree pruning contract did not provide branch disposal as a result we have more than normal number of branches to be moved to dumpsters. The volunteer including High School volunteers has been very low this year. As a result, Tony was proposed to CORE to use an outside vendor to move to the branches to dumpsters. Tony received an estimate from the Landscaping used by the city for CORE to consider. Their estimate was for three person 2-day for \$3300. CORE is not willing to pay for an outside vendor. CORE brainstormed more creative idea such as donating to nonprofit organizations. Tony pointed out to do so they will need to have a contract with the city and payment need to be 1/3 of the estimated cost. It was reported that the branches to be moved are large and the dumpster are quite a distance away. In the past, we have used personal pickups to move the branches to the dumpster. It was decided that we would put a pile at the top of Curran Lane for pickup access. Debbie asked Tony to prepare an estimate of what we could offer a nonprofit to move the branches if needed.

Irrigation proposal-Tony state the issues and proposed solutions. The drip tubing is 25 years old. We are using 85% of the city's' water rights for irrigation. Buried drip lines prevents city crews from seeing if they are working. Drip rings are too close to trunk. Sediment has possibly clogged some of the emitters. Proposed plan includes a filter to eliminate sediment and replacing drip lines in zones 7 and 11 Splitting zone 4 and 5 to reduce numbers. There was debate on the location of the placement of the new tubing to support maintenance. The options were to bury, lay the tubes on top of bark or lay them under the bark. Laying them on the top of the bark drew the following concerns: evaporation in hot weather, vandalism, and tripping of participants at the Squeeze. The compromise was to lay bark on top of the replaced tubing. Spray heads were preferred but emit too much water. His final proposal would come under budget and be completed in April. Tony was asked to send us the information presented.

Additional questions: What would be the cost of a new system? \$250,000 Weeds were high last year due to staff time issue. What happens if pump failed. It can be repaired within a week as it is a standard pump. There is no problem adding new trees when replacing trees. A reminder to make the High density a priority. Tony noted that the high-density trees are a separate zone for irrigation.

Tree Adoptions 2023- currently 102 115 last year We are still recovering PO Box failure to send a renewal notice. Some late adoptions are trickling who appear to have had the same problem with renewal of their PO Box. Kayla will remind adopters of signing in when they work in the orchard and to include the hours worked when they leave the orchard.

-Signs - Barry adoption signs are updated

Orchard Maintenance

-Pruning Party- Recap of Sat, March 4 better turn out, tennis team , Barry working nonstop on his Gaiter

Remaining Parties: March 18 – **need more cookies.**

-Branch pick up options - group discussion covered during staff report

-Spray Schedule - Bill asked about what is being sprayed. Does the company let the city know what is being sprayed. Bill inquired is the Spray company in compliance with what is listed on the contract. He uses the spray information when conducting his insect class. Tony will forward the communication as to the date sprayed and what they sprayed. He indicated that they are following the contract. They had completed the first spray in January. Bill suggested that they spray after pruning events if possible, so to prevent exposure.

-Insect Class Details -Bill needed spray information to be exchanged at the class as what we use in the orchard. The class will be held May 6th 9-10am (website has two dates which will be corrected. Debbie asked to send her any errors with pages to her to coordinate corrections) It is the same day as the Stick balls hanging, coddling moth traps. Debbie will be unavailable for the hanging to the traps and sticky balls. Jill will coordinate the hanging on 16 trees in the 4 quadrants with 4 sticky ball and 2 coddling moth traps per tree. Core has written procedures to follow.

Gate question: Gate is unlocked a lot. The question should we lock it when we leave? Yes, everyone knows the code that needs to access the Orchard.

Website/Education Discussion

-Kris can videos in orchard and instructional slides replace the need for in person pruning class.

We are experienced low turn out for our last Community Pruning Class. Last month we discussed location and access as hampering attendance. Do people learn differently than before the pandemic?

-Brainstorming options -Monty and Robert

-Identify the audience

-adopters

-community individuals to get information to prune their trees at home.

-master gardeners

-Material Available on website:

-feedback is that the slide deck may not be realistic for adopters and needs updating

-slide deck shows the use of ladders in the orchard which they are not allowed as one example.

-power point slides and a link to Carol O'Meara video on apple tree pruning may not be applicable for the type of tree pruning we do in the Curran orchard.
-For Junes meeting- Monty and Debbie will work together to review the slide deck and other material used at our pruning class with feedback from Robert who acknowledge the need for revisions.

Concert updates: pending

Meeting ID: Kayla and Kris will put the meeting Id and phone number on notices to the adopters and on the agenda each month. The goal is in courage participation in the meetings.

Meeting Id: 273 687 0666716 Password uV8wEJ or call in (audio only) +1 509 342 7253,,323087370 # Phone conference ID 323087370#

Police Proposal Overview – Mayor Steve Worthington spoke to the group about the upcoming Public Safety Levy. It would help to increase Police positions. We have gone from 26 positions to 14. The levy vote is April 25th. He also encouraged the group to sign up for Flash Vote. University Place has used this for the last 3 years. It allows writing comments along with the vote on proposed questions. You do not need to be a citizen of University Place. It gives the city valuable feedback.

Next Meeting: Tues, April 4, 2023