

WWFRF Board Meeting

February 17, 2015 7:00pm – 8:00pm

Conference Call

Attending: Sue, Kristan, Kim, Ira, Mike, Mignonne, Sam, Darlene, Jay, Bill P

Winter Field Day - Mike

- lost a speaker but Sam has agreed to step in and give his talk
- Still need some volunteers but plans on getting help from Seattle Tree Fruit Members
- John Valentine, membership chair will not be able to attend but has reached out to Kim to assist at the registration table
- Still need a source of apple cider wood - Sam graciously agreed to provide some

Scion Wood Distribution - Darlene

- Currently Seattle Tree Fruit receives all the left over scion wood.
- Request for scion wood was received by Darlene from the Whatcom Co Master Gardeners for their grafting event later in March
- Sam agreed to contact them if Darlene can send contact information and provide them some scion wood on the day of the Winter Field Day
- Jay reported that Tom has allowed active garden volunteers to take limited scion wood in the past. The suggestion is to write up a process for handling requests in the future that can be approved by the board and communicated in the newsletter in the future
- Kim and Sue will draft the procedure to be presented to the next BOD meeting

Promotion of Speakers - Darlene

- In the past WWFRF has not mentioned speakers in the promotion of events. Darlene believes there is value to draw attendees
- Kristan has sent an email to Darlene to go ahead and mention the keynote speakers now for the Winter Field Day and in the future
- Kristan also mention that Edible Seattle is interested in putting the Winter Field Day on their online calendar. There might be interest as well by Grow Magazine to promote on their web site.

Investigation by County sheriff suspected scion wood theft in the WSU research plot.

- Investigation is now complete though we have not formally heard of the results. It is believed there is not proof of a theft
- It appears that assumptions were incorrectly made as to WWFRF involvement
- Though WWFRF was implicated early on, we do not believe there is any evidence of involvement or wrong doing on the part of a WWFRF member or volunteer, past or present
- Underlying the issue is the concern that WWFRF maintain an good working relationship with WSU and other Fruit Organizations and to that point we will mention at all of our events that participants are not to go into research plots without specific WSU permission and with a WSU person at all times.

Garden Management Plan

- Jay will review some additional changes provided by Kristan then send to Kim

WSU - MOU

- Sue received the revised new MOU that she will sign and deliver to WSU on Friday. The new MOU is through March 2020.

Garden Committee Report - Kristan

- New trees will be planted this spring (4 Karmins, 5 plums, 1 Medlar, Several Peaches, replacement UFO cherries), will top graft Bosc pears with "keeper" pear varieties, Columnar Apple varieties will be increased and another row created.
- Tom and Kristan are excited about a new volunteer who has been recruited to take over the garden nursery to help grow materials that will be later transplanted into the garden.

Donation of Fruit - Bill

- Bill Pierce and Hazel would like to pick fruit for donation to local food banks or charities. They will be responsible for the harvesting and the delivery to the organizations. Non-member/volunteers will not be picking in the garden.
- Sue suggested that there might be value in writing up the guidelines for Board approval and communications to the membership. Bill will help to draft the document.

New June Garden Event- Thinning and placing footies on fruit

- Kristan is proposing a new garden event on June 13th this year to promote pest management with footies. This will be an educational event for which we will charge \$10 to non-members. The event will be followed by a 'potluck' lunch to honor our Garden volunteers.
- Sue will check with WSU and Skagit Co Health to make sure there are no food handling issues