

WWFRF Board Meeting

June 13, 2015 10:30 pm – 12:00 pm

Held at the NWREC Gazebo

Board members present: Sue Williams, Kristan Johnson, Kim Siebert, Bob Baines, Jay Scott, Mignonne Bivin, Ira Collins, John Valentine, Bill Pierce, Mike Ewanciw

Other members present – Tom Wake

New Board Member – Adam Wargacki is interested in becoming a board member. Sue asked John to send contact information so that Sue and contact him to formally invite to the BOD

Fruit Garden Signage Project – Purpose is to provide accurate and appropriate information for self tours of the Garden. The projected budget is \$2000 to build and install approximately 40 signs in the Garden. The signs will have links to web pages with a QR code and a URL on the sign leading to a page suitable for viewing on a mobile device. The mobile device page will have a link to a more comprehensive page suitable for viewing on a PC. Each sign will be located at a point of interest in the Fruit Garden and the project will greatly increase the educational value of the Fruit Garden.

Process:

- 1 Sign design is complete
2. Kristan will plan a work party in the garden to put the sign posts together and install within the next couple of weeks
3. Finalize the script/paragraphs for the signs with QR codes. Kim and John
4. Research information (content, decide on the amount of information and what URLs to be included) for each sign from the web. Kim to lead with Bill Pierce, Mignonne, John, Mignonne.
5. Jackie King will be asked to provide content approval.

Adam Wargacki will be asked to help with editing. Ira will help (as a project manager so that the board can be kept informed of the progress). Ira will help consolidate status updates to BOD.

Phase 1: A map of the tour for the Kiosk and the first 11 completed signs – projected for early October, 2015.

After the main project is completed, sub tours, or small signs with QR codes and URL's leading to web pages can continue the project.

The team is encouraged to use conference calls to increase communication between participants.

Sue asked that in the future projects of this scope be reviewed and approved by the BOD before work moves forward in keeping with the spirit and intent of the WWFRF Bylaws.

Fruit Garden Volunteer Documentation – The Fruit Garden Volunteers need to document research projects that are being done in the Garden, both for educational purposes and to prevent accidental interference with other projects. The Fruit Garden web page should keep a running documentation of these projects, for instance the pear top grafting project. Sue has taken the lead to help document the current research projects and show the value to the volunteers. Sue will send the proposals and template to info@wwfrf.org and Kim Siebert will put the update on the website. There will also be temporary signage at the place of each project. Currently 4 research efforts are ongoing. Both the website and the temporary signage will include a documentation of the goals and objectives of the project. So far the volunteers are seeing the value of the documents being posted in the garden. WSU is also very supportive of the effort.

Fruit Garden Overall Health of Trees – De Arbogast is making a map of the irrigation pipes.

We have problems with anthracnose and mildew.

Trunks of trees have been painted to help Dan in spraying the correct trees. (green = pears, red= apples, purple=plums, yellow=cherries),

Sue has asked WSU for help with anthracnose.

New Director – Steve Jones has moved on in order to be able to focus on certain projects he has been working on so we have a new interim director for about 3 months before a permanent director is appointed.

MOU – Our new MOU has been updated and signed by WSU. It is updated every 5 years.

Product testing in the Fruit Garden – We will be testing several products: biodegradable protective sheeting for blueberries, maggot barriers and tape, plus organic fertilizer. We need to report the results in the newsletter. Please send reports to to info@wwfrf.org so that Kim Siebert can put them into the newsletter.

Apple and Pear Day – To be coordinated by Bill Pierce and Ira Collins. Mike, Kristan and Bob are on the speaker committee.

Winter Field Day for 2016 – We need a chair or at least a co-chair for this event. Mike will co chair but this event takes considerable time and effort to coordinate. We need to advertise for a Winter Field Day coordinator in the next newsletter. We also need more volunteers to work the event.

Bob is to keep track of which rootstocks sell out quickly so that we can make arrangements for more of those rootstocks to be available the next year. The protocol and methods for selling rootstocks and scionwood need to be fine tuned to avoid theft. The newsletter editor will put a notice in the February newsletter calling for more volunteers for these specific areas. **Theme** – Kristan has already spoken to Steve Jones about giving a talk on the nutritional value of the old varieties. He is pursuing other speakers for the Panel on nutrition of fruit. Bob, and Mike will work with Kristan on speakers Sue suggested that we could have a presentation on *Research this Year in the Garden*.

Flower and Garden Show - board continues to support

Board Retreat - Saturday, November 14th at Sue's Sun room

She handed out the WWFRF goals and objectives we worked on a couple of years ago. Let's plan to update during the retreat. This should include all the activities to happen in 2016.