

WWFRF Board Meeting

July 10, 2011 2pm – 4:00pm

Held at Cloud Mountain Farm.

Board members present: Kristan Johnson, Bill Davis, Mike Ewanciw, Kim Siebert, Bob Baines, Walter Kropp, Shirley Kropp, Christy Nieto, Jay Scott, Sarah Graham, Sue Williams, Bonnie Swanson

Other members present: Rachel Petrich, JoAnn Alidina.

Special Guests: Carol Miles, Chris Benedict

Introduction to Chris Benedict – Chris has been appointed as WSU Whatcom County extension agent and in the future should be capable of helping to fulfill our needs toward successfully proposing grants for our WWFRF Fruit Research Program in the future. He may give a talk at the next Winter Field Day.

Carol Miles – Carol is mainly involved in vegetable research, but she has some projects in fruit research which are supported by grants – the spotted wing drosophila research in the cherry block which is directed at finding organic controls for SWD, and the apple cider project. They are hoping to receive grants for the high tunnel cherry project now that research has been initiated by Cloud Mountain Farm. There is a grape project that could be benefited by help from volunteers from WWFRF, if we could provide volunteers.

Summer Fruit Festival – We will not give out \$5 off coupons for admission this year, but we will continue to give food vouchers to volunteers and speakers. We are planning to give Bob Gary and Jacky special t shirts when they are honored for their work with WWFRF.

Nominating Committee – Rachel – Bonnie moved that Sue take over the position of President from July 10th, 2011 till March of 2012. Seconded by Bob. Passed unanimously. Thank you Sue! Georgia Jensen has resigned from the board due to family considerations.

Financial Report – Walt presented the financial report. Addendum 20 is paid. We have a payment of \$2150 due the second half of 2011, and 2 payments due the first half of 2012, which will fulfill our obligations for past research. Less money has been coming in in all areas this year, less membership money and very few donations. With no research to donate to, we are not getting donations for research, and the Fruit Garden still has sufficient funds to operate. A suggestion was made that the newsletter might have requests for donations for specific projects and that if people donated through their employers they might be able to get matching funds. Kristan moved that we accept the Financial report, seconded by Bob. Passed unanimously.

Bylaw Changes – Shirley – The bylaw changes have been filed with the state. The pro-Bono attorney will look at the endowment proposal and our procedures.

Website – The new website will go public on Wednesday the 13th of July. After that we will save the expenses that we have been paying for the old site.

Fruit Garden – There is space in the Fruit Garden where a cherry block could be put in east of the kiwi trellis which would give us cherries for the cherry day in the future, but it is not certain that we have the volunteer support to care for the planting. Volunteer participation in the Fruit Garden has dropped. Christy said that people who had indicated that they would like to work in the Garden would be contacted by phone. Perhaps a once a month Saturday work day can be set up in addition to the Thursday morning work parties.

Direction for WWFRF – We will have a meeting on August 7, from 12 noon to 5:00 pm to decide on our direction for the future.