

WWFRF Board Meeting

November 21, 2015 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Held at Sue William's home

Board members present: Sue Williams, Kristan Johnson, Kim Siebert, Bob Baines, Jay Scott, Ira Collins, John Valentine, Sam Benowitz, Darlene Granberg, Mike Ewanciw.

Board members not present: Adam Wargacki, JoeAnne Hilgart, Mignonne Bivin

Mike Ewanciw left before the end of the meeting.

A quorum was present for the entire meeting.

Committee reports:

Fruit Garden –

1. Irrigation lines are in place now in the north row and by the columnar trees
2. We have a well organized nursery area now
3. Biosolids mulch was donated. We used it to top dress in the new Nursery and the north row of trees.
4. Some anthracnose ridden trees were removed.
5. Apple sales are very low due to apple maggot and codling moth infestations. We are working on a way to close the Garden to keep visitors out for the specified amount of time after spraying so that we can implement the Garden Management plan to deal with this problem.

Financial Report – Mike Ewanciw handed out a Report showing our actual income and expenditures alongside the budget for 2015. Income and expenses are both lower than last year. Motion to approve Financial report made by Kristan, seconded by John. Passed unanimously.

The budget for 2016 was amended and approved as amended.

Membership – John Valentine – the membership numbers are low with only 85 regular and 5 long-term. 55 memberships have expired in 2015.

After some discussion regarding alternatives for encouraging membership renewal, John motioned that we spend up to \$500 to send out a mailing large enough to qualify for bulk mailing to encourage former members to renew their memberships, which was seconded and unanimously approved. A Membership committee was formed to complete this mailing and to send out an email, with the newsletter attached, to go even farther back in the expired membership list, and to work to improve our visibility and promote our organization: John (chair), Kim, Bob, Darlene, Sam.

Unfinished Business:

As a tribute to Dr. Bob Norton his name will be on the Donor Appreciation sign. The publicity point have now been put on the website. A PowerPoint presentation has been made to be used for presentations about WWFRF. A 5 minute version of the PowerPoint will also be made. Data entry-we still have not entered the archived research data to get it online.

Business cards and Trifold brochure for Fruit Garden Tour –Two business cards were proposed, one for the organization as a whole and another one for Fruit Garden volunteers. It was moved that up

to \$1300 be approved for the printing of the trifold brochures for the Fruit Garden Tour and the two types of business cards. Passed unanimously.

New Business:

Finance committee – A finance committee was formed with Mike and Darlene.

WSU sponsored business – WSU has asked if we will commit to contributing financially to a specific project regarding fruit culture. No action was taken but this will be taken up at a meeting in January or February. With our current low income we will have to look at ways that we can raise the money before we can commit to doing this because we can not use funds that have been donated for the Fruit Garden. Sue proposed that we contact Carol Miles for more details about what this would entail. The possibility of including WSU sponsored research in the donation areas on the website and membership form to start a fund for research was mentioned.

Donor Appreciation Sign – Kim notified the board that work is moving forward to design a donor appreciation sign that will cost less than \$1000. The project should be ready for vote at the February meeting.

Insurance – We now we need insurance for the NW Flower and Garden Show. We need to get a certificate and maybe a rider.

August Sample the Harvest Day – It was motioned that we hold another harvest day the first Saturday in August featuring blueberries and plums. Passed unanimously.

Winter Field Day for 2016 – Has no lead organizer to coordinate with WSU, talk to speakers, and organize the staff for the day of. Bob Baines agreed to be the person to organize the staff for the day of the event only. Kim Siebert agreed to find 4 people to help with setup, and 4 other people to help with cleanup for the event. We might have the Annual Membership meeting immediately after the Panel Discussion in the hopes of increasing the attendance.