

Board of Directors Meeting
Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association
July 25, 2018
9:30 a.m. – 11:48 a.m.

Location: Diana Evans' house

Present: Mark Wolbers (President), Debbie Hinchey (Vice President), Gary Masog (Treasurer), Susan Miller (Secretary), Diana Evans, and Val Glooschenko

Absent: Karen Leis

1. Minutes Approval. The June 28 board meeting minutes were approved (motion by Mark, seconded by Gary, approved unanimously).
2. Finance.
 - a. **Denali Accounts Closed**. Debbie gave Gary a \$30,702.32 check from Denali FCU after closing our CD and savings account there. As agreed at our June 28 meeting, Gary will buy a \$27,957.47 one-year CD at Northern Skies FCU and put the rest into our Northern Skies savings account.
 - b. **Financial Statements**. Gary handed out his Profit and Loss Sheet for January 1 to July 21 and his July 25 Balance Sheet.
3. Lawyer Nursery Closure and August Auction of Root Stock. Gary reported that apple rootstock is available on only one of the two auction websites. There are some lots small enough for us to bid on (lots of 900). The apple rootstock includes *baccata*, *renetka* and *selkirk*. The rootstock is listed by age (one-year and two-year), not by diameter. The auction will be August 15 on the internet.
4. Plant Order Coordinator. MOTION: Debbie Hinchey will continue as our plant order coordinator for the upcoming plant order season. (Moved by Susan, seconded by Gary, approved by all.)
5. Plant Materials Center (PMC) and other plant propagation options. Mark reported on the club's visit to the PMC in Palmer last Saturday. PMC staff have tried and failed at invitro propagation of apple rootstock. They are considering attempting stooling, but it seems unclear about whether they will be able to do this. Mark contacted North American Plants yesterday. It is a company in Oregon that propagates many varieties of plants, including apples, black walnuts and Carmine Jewel cherry bushes. One problem is that they do not do any winter storage. They ship the plants they produce between December and February. The company will get back to Mark soon about whether they have any interest in working with us on propagating a reliable apple rootstock for Alaska. The board expressed its appreciation to Mark for his efforts on this.
6. Potential Orchard & Fruit Demonstration Plot. Mark reported on the possibility of the club getting involved in an urban farm project on municipal land which could include a demonstration orchard. The land in question is where the old Anchorage Native Hospital used to be. There will be a "Local Foods Local Places Workshop" at the Pioneer School House on August 8 & 9 which Mark will not be able to attend. Debbie agreed to attend. Others board members may also attend to learn more about this.

7. Apple Press. Mark reported that Barb Henjum has a basket press that club members can use to press apples this fall. No dates have been agreed on. Barb is also willing to store an hydraulic press for the club if the club buys one.
8. Apple Grinder. The board discussed an apple grinder available from Pleasant Hill Grain company in Nebraska for \$899.00. We do not know the cost of shipping. Board members will continue to research options.
9. Membership List on Website. MOTION: Diana is asked to put the following information about members in the Members Only section of our website: name, city, email address. This information will be posted only for members who have checked the box on the membership application form allowing their information to be included in the club's directory. (Moved by Val, seconded by Mark, approved by all)
10. Cherry Survey. The board discussed the possibility of surveying the membership concerning their experience growing bush cherries. Debbie agreed to draft a survey and circulate it to the board for comment.
11. Bron & Sons Cherries. Debbie agreed to check back with the members who reported problems with the cherry bushes received from Bron & Sons this year to see if any of the bushes have recovered.
12. **Next Board Meeting:** Thursday, **August 23** from 9:30 to 12:00 at Diana's house.

Susan Miller, Secretary
July 25, 2018