

Alaska Pioneer Fruit Growers Association
Meeting Minutes
March 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.
BP Energy Center, Anchorage, Alaska

- A. 6:30 p.m. - Refreshments and Socialization
- B. 7:00 p.m. – Call to Order
- Quorum of membership (more than 10%) present: 30 of 103 paid 2018 members
 - Six of seven members of Board of Directors present: Mark Wolbers (President), Debbie Hinchey (Vice President), Gary Masog (Treasurer), Susan Miller (Secretary), Val Glooschenko (Director), and Diana Evans (Director)
Excused Absence: Karen Leis (Director)
- C. Approval of Minutes of February Meeting
Moved by Debbie Hinchey, seconded by Joe Scarso; passed without objection
- D. Reports of Officers.
1. Treasurer’s Report – Gary Masog
 - **Bought** new \$20,000 CD at Northern Skies with \$14,943.40 from closing Northrim savings and checking accounts plus \$5,056.60 from Northern Skies checking account.
 - **Current total savings, checking and CDs:** \$160,877.92
 - **Partial refunds** to some members for Cupid cherry bushes: \$828.00
 - **Deposited** \$432.00 from membership dues payments and \$46.00 from sale of parafilm and metal tags at February meeting
 - **Paid:** \$30.00 honorarium to Scott Lammers for his February presentation, \$82.00 for food at January and February meetings, and \$101.00 for grafting supplies (parafilm and metal tags).
 - **The treasurer’s Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement** for February are attached.
 2. President’s Report - Mark Wolbers
 - This is last meeting here at BP Energy Center until next Fall.
 - In the past, there has been very little documentation about how to conduct various events/activities (for example, plant ordering, grafting workshop, etc.). The current board is trying to document these processes to help future boards.
 - Apple press for doing small batches. One possibility is to work with Government Hill organization. Please make suggestions if have ideas about what club should do.
- E. Old and New Business
1. **Pending Plant Orders** - Debbie Hinchey.

- Mazzard cherry rootstock. Debbie reported that Gary Masog's research indicates that this rootstock would not be successful here. Apparently, it is all for sweet cherries, not for pie cherries. Debbie consulted with some other orchard owners. They agreed. So, Debbie has cancelled the club's order for this rootstock. But, Debbie passed around a clipboard so members who had signed up for this rootstock could state whether they still want to order some.
- Debbie sent three clipboards around the room so members could sign up for the following:
 - Cupid cherry bushes (only 28 were left unspoken for)
 - Prunus americana rootstock
 - Amur cherry rootstock

2. **Vinyl Tree Protectors** – Gary Masog

Gary reported that, if members are interested, he can order 250 three-foot vinyl tree protectors for around 85 cents each. Free shipping to Alaska is not available, but we may be able to get it if we can get them shipped to a freight forwarding business in Fife, Washington and combine them with our rootstock order from Lawyer Nursery. A sign-up sheet was passed around to gauge interest in the tree protectors.

3. **“Fruit Bites” Email News** – Diana Evans

This new “email news” is being produced by Diana Evans and Debbie Hinchey. The first issue was sent out by Debbie on March 6 and included links to several articles on the club's website about pruning and growing apples. Please let Diana or Debbie know about any websites, books, magazines, etc. you like and think should be included in “Fruit Bites.”

4. **Pruning Workshop:** March 24 at 1:00 at Boyer's Greenhouse
Please bring you pruners, clippers, loppers if you plan to prune.

5. **Grafting Workshop:** April 21 at 1:00 to 3:00 at “Church of Love” in Spenard.
Several volunteers will be needed, as well as donations of scion wood. Dan has said the best time to collect scion wood is the last two weeks in March. Keep in moist paper in labeled plastic bags in refrigerator. We do not know yet if there will also be grafting of cherry wood.

F. Program. Debbie Hinchey: *Tree Science Applied to Buying, Planting, Pruning and Care of Fruit Trees*. There are many myths surrounding fruit production. As more research is done to test some long-held assumptions, a better understanding of best practices for fruit production is emerging.

Adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Grafting Supplies Sold:

15 bags of metal tags (10 tags for \$2) = \$30
10 bags of parafilm (\$1 each) = \$10

Susan Miller, Secretary
March 13, 2018; revised 3/21/18