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Biogaian meeting notes, 6/26/2017

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To: "<biogaians@songaia.com>" <biogaians@songaia.com>, "Douglas G. Larson" <ddhle@earthlink.net>, "Laura Klepfer (Songaia)" <ljklepfer@gmail.com>, Helen Gabel <heleng@igc.org>

Present: Susie (facilitator), Sylvan (notes), Doug, Laura, Hyra, Brian, Patricia, Sadhana, Marilyn, Brent, Mary, Zarifa, Elizabeth, Aditi, Libby, Carol Day (visitor)
 [Because of the blackberry removal issue, several non-Biogaians were at the meeting to discuss options and proposals.]

Important: It was decided to have an EXTRA MEETING: JULY 10TH, DOUG WILL FACILITATE, BRENT WILL BE NOTE TAKER

Agenda:

- Micro shelter update
 - It's basically done, but for a few details. One bed is done. Patricia is seeking twin sheets for the bed.
- Blackberries
 - Fencing around swale
 - County response update

Inspection delayed until Wednesday @ 10:30

- Next blackberry steps
 - Paul is looking into fence panels that are easier to move
 - (will send details via email)
 - Authorizing spending up to \$200 on fence panels (Paul, Aditi, Brent)

- The giant mower does a pretty good job and isn't too hard
- Aditi looked into yard waste removal: is just dumped into trash if we get a big dumpster. If we get a small can, it's composted, costs \$23/ month
- Finding a way to create a permanent enclosure for the goats behind the retention pond
- Goats will kill even large trees, they need to be protected if the goats are in there
- Fence panels need to be moved to our property line [see note under Harambe]

Who will fix this? Aditi, Paul, Brent will do within next week, goats will go back in pond until then.

Brian will try to get ahold of Paul Butler to get the boundary clarified.

Hyra contacted Garden Cycles, has a response from them: \$1,050 to remove roots from over spill area, \$750. (This

is in addition to what was already paid.) Suggests planting with natives to suppress new growth.

- Will discuss farther plans at next meeting after inspection
- We still need to make a final decision on herbicide use (this year)

- Aditi asks that if we consider herbicide use in the future, that the community be informed and allowed to offer other help/ solutions first
- Use other solutions now, without barring herbicide use in the future
- Hear from inspector first

- Arrange a bit more work from Garden Cycles, up to dollar amount of original agreement
 - focus on willow swale? (Hyra, Patricia will decide where to get the paid work done for most effect) (will work with fence buyers on this)

- Harambe on Saturday 6/24/2017
 - Much poop moved
 - New fenced area for goats behind pond, in area required to be cleared
 - Willow swale mowed (except for the bottom, where the giant mower can't reach)
 - Pipes cleaned out
 - 380 lbs of blackberry canes taken to dump! \$11 + gas for up to 500 lbs.
 - Paul Butler objects to the goats being on his property and our fence being connected to his, Brent sent a reply
 - Brian will contact Paul Butler [see note under Next Steps]
- Round table report summary (Aditi)
 - Work has been done towards removal, but no final decision has been made yet about herbicide use
 - Email was sent out, please read it.
 - To-do list was also sent out, many things done from the list
 - Many people changed their minds about using herbicide after listening to concerns during the discussion and hearing more volunteer energy
 - It looks like there is now more energy to solve the problem in other ways and more awareness of the need for ongoing work.
 - This process has been good practice for our community in problem solving
 - Hyra would like us to continue to hire Garden Cycles up to the amount originally agreed
 - Use of herbicide needs to be a community decision, not just Biogaian decision
- Garden fence grant
 - Woot! Laura got a grant for from Lawns to Lettuce
 - \$500 for cost-sharing the expense of the new rabbit fence.
- Garden manager position
 - Task force needs to form and meet soon (outside of meetings)
 - Task force: Brian, Patricia, Helen?, Laura, Doug
 - Task force will invite Helen, who was suggested for this
- Dead tree on Lost Lake Lane
 - Was done on Saturday during Harambe

In truck, will be firewood soon

- Chicken update
 - larger coop plans purchased
 - Cost estimate is \$1,250 for buying all new materials, can probably get this down
 - Proposal will be sent soon to Chicken Posse for edits, then to Biogaians
 - clarified that Biogaians are only the supervising committee, not responsible for the chickens
- watering trees

Susie and Patricia will number the trees and make a plan ASAP, since it is now very hot

If you have small plastic jugs please set them by Journeys at west end of stable

- Garden patio
 - Work will be starting July 7th and go all that week
- Unit 11 slope eroding (whose responsibility?)
 - Perhaps ask Officers to clarify?
- Felling cottonwood trees

Journeys guy can do it, just needs a chainsaw (Patricia will coordinate, can borrow Doug's saw)

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"May the Infinite Possibilities that surround you become fully clear to you, and may you have the Strength and Wisdom to make the most of them."