

Biogaian Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2014

Present – Brent, Brian, Doug, Laura, Susie, Helen, Patricia

Not Present – Sadhana

Facilitator - Laura

Scribe – Doug

Agenda

- Rabbit Fence
- Cottage
- Interns
- Truck
- Reserve Spending

Rabbit Fence

The rabbit problem in the garden has increased dramatically in 2013. As examples, peas and edamame are both completely gone.

For some time, we have been discussing fencing the garden to keep rabbits out.

Two preliminary designs for a rabbit fence were presented along with their cost estimates. Both designs call for a 2 ½ foot high fence with 6 inches buried in the ground. Since we have no budget for fencing we would have to raise the money.

Fund raising approaches

- Ask for special project funding. Perhaps use some Abundance Funds. A proposal would be required.

The two designs differ in the style of fencing used.

Ranch Style Fencing – This style is esthetically pleasing, which several Songaians have expressed a desire for. Cost estimate with tax is \$2,682.

Farm Style – This style is utilitarian and lacks esthetic features. Cost estimate with tax is \$1,642.

Comments

- We don't need a fancy fence and I am not sure it's really worth the extra money. But the need for rabbit protection is immediate.
- Alternatively we could fence just one quadrant to save money. Do it as a test to see if its effective.
- Not sure what the best approach is but we DO NEED rabbit protection.
- The Ranch Style fence is more about drawing people into the garden making it a sacred space. The long-term cost or the Ranch style is less than the Farm style.

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- The urgency of getting a fence up is NOW.
- Some rabbits can jump up to 2 foot high. But there are some that can jump 3 feet.
- Let's talk with Snohomish County and seek their advice on rabbit protection in gardens.
- We have a copious supply of fish netting. Could we build a fence with this to save on the cost? Let's do a mock-up of a portion of fence using fish netting.

Cottage

LSC wants to limit the number of people in the cottage to 2.

Interns

We have accepted 2 interns

<u>Intern</u>	<u>Approximate Stay Duration</u>
Alex Korsunsky	May 25 to October
Bryan Koogler	June 3 to Aug 5

Two others are still in process.

<u>Intern Candidate</u>	<u>Being Considered for</u>
Max Mills	March 27 to May 31
Ugo Perrier	May to June

The Truck

Nartano has agreed to work on the truck. He believes that it isn't the carberator but the automatic choke that is broken and causing the problem.

Check-Out

We each recorded a brief video as a greeting for the interns.

Reserve Spending

Doug announced that he has purchased several replacement landscaping tools (Shovels, rakes, forks). Money for them will be taken from the Reserve Account. He has also purchased 2 replacement compost thermometers and will be purchasing two new wheelbarrows as well.

Action Items

Someone will contact Snohomish County for help or information on rabbit protection in the garden.

Next Meeting –

Date - Monday, March 24, 2014

Facilitator – Douglas

Scribe – Brent