**Biogaian Meeting**

**5/8/2018**

**Present:** Mary, Helen (scribe), Laura, Douglas, Hayra, Anita, Brent, Brian (convener), Sadhana, Bekah

**Checkin:** what will you miss about the rain leaving?

**Success/Progress in the garden**

Flower salad, many, many seeds and seedlings started

Anita is tree with deep roots, but could use support with filling intern meal program job slots. Helen will meet with Susie and Anita about how many job slots are appropriate. We can also supply Susie with days that people are actually available.

**New Food Forest ("SongCrest")**

Weeding and cover crop needed. Brian has been having conversations about water with Puppysong, which is open to metering from their line for use of city water. Brian will raise the question and see if Susie/Patrick will move it forward. New plantings were not put in with sufficient mulch, will definitely need water.

**Water to North Food Forest**

Parts and lines are there, but buried. Understory is overtaken by weeds, may need new plantings, but was designed for low-water needs. What if we planted anything new in fall? Piglets will monitor over summer and do inventory, consider clean up, but not set up water lines.

**Water to Keyhole**

Trying to establish perennials but we have annuals as well. Water lines have been buried and need to be re-established. Liam has been clearing buttercup and bindweed. There is a possible leak near SE corner. Need more hands to help. Douglas knows the system, could help hoses to be found. Brent would be willing to assist Liam and Douglas.

**Plant sale plants**

Dorothy has requested some to go in planter box under grape arbor, Sylvan will move appropriate ones tomorrow. Majority are available if anyone wants them, or they will just be composted if still there after weekend. Sylvan will put out email to community.

**Clearing beds and planting needs**

Elizabeth and Laura have been helping interns, but hoop house is full, plantings need to go out! Bed-clearing has been slowed by lots of buttercup. Community-wide requests? "Garden gym?" Monday dinner announcements? 1:1 invites? Adopt a bed?

**Greenbin share**

Helen has submitted paperwork for reimbursement.

**Blackberries**

Swale and some other places need attention. Brian and Ian have moved goats. Ian is willing to do some paid work; Laura can give him the list needed to pass inspection. Jack may be willing to lead a harambe project. Budget has $1900 for wetland/forest restoration. We approve $200 at $15/hr towards getting ready for inspection, then evaluate where we are. Brian will connect Ian with Laura to look at the areas and see what needs to be done, and also ask if Jack interested in leading a team at next Harambe.

**Harambe 5/19**

Songcrest Food Forest weeding and cover crop-- Nancy and Diane might be willing to issue another invitation to the new HOA, or through the new HOA officers. Mary will contact Nancy/Diane/Patrick/Rich to see if an email invitation can go out.

Blackberries--Only if a leader can be found. Laura is reminderer only.

**Moving hoop house Saturday**

Three meetings after breakfast, including liberation permaculture discussion. Shift the discussion energy outside afterwards? Hoophouse needs some preparation, as does the new site, which can be completed before Saturday. There are several other meetings Saturday morning, but we only need about 8-10 people for a few minutes.

**Intern update**

Locals are in the same school program, won't be full time until after June 8. Selena, Laura Jane and Olua are coming 2-3 days/week until 2pm.

Mid-June we will have another onsite residential intern, Amber. Also two more locals are coming, Morgan and Adriel, in mid-late June. So far one person (Selena) is able to stay until October 15 plus MistyDawn. Anita is still getting inquiries frequently.

**Garden Overlook**

Next steps are to set posts for trellis, and to stage the pavers. Some intern help is possible after other planting priorities are covered. This season's goal is paving and sink. Brian is available from this time on.

**Chicken coop**

Building supplies arrive Thursday. Sylvan would like to stage them in the parking spot nearest shed, and will email community. Brent will move truck to next space. Friday Sylvan will start building, hopefully helped by rest of chicken posse.

**Tree updates**

1. Cedar was cut back near crosswalk to Puppysong for visibility. Because of the timeliness that Hayra perceived, she approached this pruning with an aim for immediacy, rather than aesthetics. Should it be cleaned up, should something else be planted that would beautify the area? We had decided earlier to clear lower limbs but the process was done with urgency due to child safety concerns after a close call when a child was nearly hit by a passing car. Nartano was angry that the limbs were removed without sufficient notice, but some notice did go out. A general statement about pruning from Biogaians could be issued, emphasizing that safety comes first, then feelings around specific plants. All committees advise about highly visible changes except for urgent safety issues. What's next for that area? Mary, Brent, Sadhana willing to work on cleaning up the partly pruned area. Sylvan will do photoshop of possible future plans for the area. Biogaians won't be painting the crosswalk. Facilities budget could pay for children-at-play sign (Sylvan) right away.Hayra also expressed that, though it had been decided months ago by Biogaians that the tree needed to be notably pruned for pedestrian visibility and she had mentioned her concern again at Community Meeting... she regrets that she had not been more proactive in getting the attention of all Songaians in the 2 weeks prior to FOE.

2. One of apple trees in Songcrest Food Forest is listing due to root being cut. A branch is getting into the wires, should be removed immediately. The tree needs to be re-righted and cradled/propped for the next couple of years. Mary and Brian will work on that project.

**Next meeting**

4th Tuesday (May 22). Helen will convene, Mary will scribe.