

Biogaian Meeting 10/25/22

Facilitator: Mary; **Scribe:** Patricia

Present: Patricia, Mary, Helen, Anita, Carol, Ka, Reuben, Eileen, Jack, Laura

Check in question: Remember a Halloween costume you remember

Reports and next steps:

Patricia: Labor \$\$ 2022 – there are a few more items on the list that could be done...Patricia and Helen will work on this some more after today's meeting. See the Songaia Assoc. Landscaping items on the [Songaia Job Listing For \\$\\$s](#) spreadsheet.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/13XtXsojGGhUUHQAWaV9IzdUZlwVXPAWb/edit#gid=920102773>

Helen: Year to Date 2022 Special Projects Budget - [see worksheets for details](#)

Hoop House – Came in under budget \$2,942.98 which will remain in the Community Development Fund

Microshelter – Was over budget by \$268.45 – will come out of the unspent funds in the Biogaian budget

NRCS – Meadow Project spent \$3,681.41 - \$2,000 in donation and the balance of \$2,536.95 remains

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1N0HsU3bH0p5nJFszHhBKfRuVsUTsVopT/edit>

Helen: 2022 Biogaian budget vs actual year to date– [see worksheet for details](#)

It is difficult to know how the end of the year numbers will look, but we are underspent in both the funds from the Songaia Association budget and the G2T budget. We will have more accurate look in another month.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1IOZJet3MK4g4OY218Hbo6jdMPDANTXe2/edit#gid=489923156>

Helen: reformatting Budget 2023 – [see worksheet for details](#)

We are suggesting that we meld the two budgets together and make it easier for the bookkeepers to manage. This is the budget that we will be working with to create the budget for 2023.

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1bb6Sq3Y7k7t_GOZWaxruiP-PkUENd0bw/edit#gid=1546178781

mary: **The Crestmont irrigation system** has a leak and we are requesting that the Crestmont HOA pay that bill...but they may refuse. They have already divested their interest in keeping the food forest weeded. We need to convene a task force to determine if we are going to keep irrigating it and if so the method and how we are going to keep the weed whacking happening. Mary, Eileen, Anita, Nartano and Matt are interested in being on the task force.

Anita: Garden Report

The season is over...gratitude for the vegetables, the beautiful new paths, the new hoop houses, the apple harvest, the great winter squash harvest, the Biogaian area clean-up, the tomatoes, the curriculum with the herbarium, the bean shellers, salsa, etc.

Still lot of work to put the garden to bed for the winter. The irrigation still needs to be put up. Planning a couple more community garden work parties.

The first frost will wilt the dahlia's.

Patricia: Native Forest Garden report

The Native Forest Garden is doing very well. There are several plants waiting to fill in some areas including native grasses and elderberry and currants. Plans for the winter include adding biochar, continuing to weed – especially the edges where buttercup is moving in, adding additional wood chips or seeding a NW meadow mix. We are working with a videographer, Charles Thorpe, to create a 12–15-minute video of the project. We have connected with the USDA public affairs officer to see if there are any funds available and also have a contact to pursue with the Rotary.

mary: orchard report

Eat pears, eat pears now, don't hold back. Cook the shrivelly ones. Cut out the bad parts and eat the rest. Same with the apples! Our most perfect apples are beautiful...but not quite ready to eat yet. There are lots of buckets full of cider ready apples waiting in the barn. A couple more pickings are planned. Saturday is the day for pressing with the press from the tool library. The orchard could use another load or two of wood chips to be distributed this winter – there is lots of winter work in the orchard, pruning, etc. The NE Seattle Tool Library is going to be featured on the Today Show. They are asking for photos and videos from Saturday to feature on the Today Show.

mary - Biochar

All the biochar to date is distributed or waiting to be added to the compost. We are going to schedule another 3-4 burns this winter

Proposals:**Anita: Restoration Stewardship Support Role – [see draft proposal draft](#)**

Comments: The funding as proposed would use all of the NRCS monies for 2022 and 2023 by the end of March. Split the proposal into two proposals, one for 2022 and one for 2023. The committee unanimously supports the approval of the 2022 portion now. We can reimagine 2023 in the next few weeks as part of next year's budget.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mXSIMW0kxcvz6dgtgEvRes9zEGabpVIZHwPbl56SqVA/edit>

Reuben: Compost reimaged – suggesting that we separate the food compost from the weeds from the garden. See attached power point slide show. Some more work needs to be done on a final proposal. Considering adding a composting job to the meal food jobs list. Here is a link to Reuben's slide deck with his current thinking: https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1B0_z5SWKfuyi7Uub2YNqvGfkw-nFcDrSuKaAig7ogHQ/edit#slide=id.p

Next meeting: Two meetings in November to work through the budget!

November 15th facilitator: Reuben scribe: Eileen

November 29th

Parking lot for future meetings:

Sylvan: would like to purchase Medlar trees and consider removal of unproductive trees.

Carter: Garden shed

Mary: Tool assessment & inventory: create a task group to bring a proposal

Anita: 2023 Winter Stewardship