**Biogaians – April 16, 2019**

Facilitator – Anita

Scribe – Sadhana

Present: Brian, Mary, Elizabeth, MistyDawn, Douglas R., Laura K., Douglas L., Helen, Ian

Cedar Grove dumpster getting food waste dumped in. Ideas for educating the community? (Mary)

* Announcement on Saturday
* Make a laminated sign (No food waste – compost over there -> )
* Inspiring reminder about value of compost (we need more compost fuel, add to community discussion)

Garden Report (Anita)

* Today was the first day of intern season, welcome back to Ian
* Going to have a table at UW Bothell sustainability fair
* More interns in May – Flower Star(residential) and Kelly Blackburn (off site). Kati will be here in July (residential).
* Ian will be hammock camping in the cathedral

Brush removal (Laura)

What is the next priority for brush removal? Mary wants to get the brush from the south orchard, the adjacent compost piles, and the stuff along Lost Lake Road.

Material smaller than 1 inch (including blackberry) can go to Flower World.

Mary will be gone for three weeks until May 21, someone should oversee brush collection during that time.

Proposal for use of CH downstairs areas for interns (Helen)

(separate document distributed by email)

Additional suggestions from tonight, consultation with G2T officers and Songaia officers, then put it forward to the community.

Add tracking of cleaning tasks, observation of quiet hours.

County water retention requirements (Laura)

Douglas R. is helping with this issue and learning about the details.

Time to turn on watering system – garden section is on except for food forest, need to start landscaping water system. (Brian)

Garden Steward advisory group (Helen)

Susie suggested setting up an advisory board that can receive email, address issues and concerns that can’t be easily resolved with the contracted Garden Steward, and serve as an interface between the community and the Steward/Intern program. Brian, Helen, Diane will serve on this committee; Anita has agreed to this approach.

Tree removal above microshelter – bid and next steps. (Helen)

We have had two bids, comes out to $600-$700 per tree. See quote attached.

Three trees are threatening the microshelter, and there are 4 more trees that are dead but may be too dangerous to take out.

We need to get the three taken care of ASAP. This could be paid from reserve funds.

Helen recommends working with Arborwell. They are also working on a tree at NES.

**Decision – hire Arborwell to remove the three trees ASAP. Helen will follow up.**

Harambee projects (Mary)

* Bed clearing in the garden
* Weeding and mulching roses
* Clean up “herb garden” by the common house (NE corner)
* Move patio blocks to get plaza project moving
* South orchard brush removal
* Install labels and reflectors for the food forest
* Weeding and cleanup in the food forest
* Clear out south-most raspberry patch
* Weed whack Archangel plants under the Deodora cedar

Invasive plants (see Hayra’s email)

Biggest concern is proper handling to avoid spreading.

Meeting review?

Went well: Productive, polite, clear printing & colors on the white board, good check-in, Helen was well-prepared to move topics forward.

Do differently: Anita still developing facilitator skills.

Next meetings:

* April 30th – Sadhana facilitator, scribe MistyDawn (Anita backup)
* May 14th – MistyDawn facilitator, scribe Laura K.

