

Notes from March 27, 2017 Biogaian Meeting

Present: Douglas, Jacob, Sadhana, Susie, Brian, Sylvan, Helen, Laura, Brent, Mary

Facilitator: Helen **Notetaker:** Patricia

Gathering Space (Brian):

Brian described the plans for the garden overlook gathering space design idea. The plan is to do it in at least 2 phases. The first one would be the infrastructure – water and electricity, to cut the slope and flatten the area including a retaining wall in front of the garden. There would be about a 30-inch retaining wall. We have the pavers for the patio.

- build the retaining wall
- cut the bank & fill the area between the wall and the bank
- there would be a cooking counter along the bank

One difficulty in the design is how to anchor the posts but keep them right up against the edge of the retaining wall. Brian has been watching how the retaining wall next door has been built using “lock and load” block. The design would work well but the cost would be about 20% more or \$1300.

Brian will write the decision board proposal to be supported by the Biogaian committee. Would need to raise an additional \$900 if the community agrees to use \$500 from the abundance fund.

Rabbit Fence:

We have purchased posts and mesh for the rest of the rabbit fence. The additional costs will be cement. Think about it for a month and cover the beds with remay.

Blackberries:

James has said that he is still willing to dig blackberries on the weekends. Brian and Sylvan have cleared a path to the area that needs clearing. We have until about the first of July to get the area ready for inspection. The hope was that we could do the work before the blackberries burst forth. Are we going to hire someone to come and do it or are we going to leave another month to see how much James could do?

The consultant from the Snohomish Country Conservation District has given us a list of several groups that we can hire to do the work.

Schedule one more workday on April 8th or 9th and then Patricia get a bid and a date for a group to finish it before the deadline.

Interns:

Name	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct
Residential							
Carolyn Langevin	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT
Stacy Williams		FT	?	?	FT	FT	FT
Christy McKinney				07/06/17	FT	09/06/17	

Non-residential							
Zach Pohle			?	?	?	?	
Andrew Jones			06/19/17	FT	FT	09/23/17	
Anita Higgins			06/15/17	FT	FT	9/15?	10/15?

Micro-shelter:

The pathway and the foundation got built last week. The shelter build is happening this weekend. Brent found a door that will work.

The materials are being purchased this week and the workshop planning is going well.

Trees:

We ordered 5 chestnut trees, 3 dwarf Western Red Cedar trees and 2 Chinese chestnut seedlings from Burnt Ridge Nursery that will be delivered next Tuesday. If they are in pots we could plant them on Festival of the Earth, if not we could plant them immediately.

We need to transplant the walnut that has volunteered in the NW quadrant to the forest. Transplant it on April the 8th?

Potting Shed Starts:

Helen is requesting that if you are planning seeds in the potting shed to let Helen know and if you are expecting her to water them. Dorothy has requested to water in the potting shed. Helen has asked that someone check and make sure they get watered this weekend while she is gone.

Bushes near the garden shed: Sylvan is requesting permission to planting a red flowering currant, a lilac and a Chinese paper bush in the area next to the shed. Douglas would like to leave the local blackberries in there.

Sprayer in the Garden Shed: Sylvan’s sprayer has disappeared from the potting shed. Has anyone seen it?

Budget – put it on the agenda for next month.

LSC Path needs attention: Maybe we have the interns do it as part of the trade for the cottage this summer. There might be some more gravel available after the microshelter path is finished.

Worm Bin Placement: Helen is replacing the worm bins. Is there any advice for where to put the old ones until they are ready to use? Move the full ones to the garden or the blueberry area.

Lawn Seed: Patricia needs to call and ask Brian Skinner to come immediately and finish reseeding the lawn.

Soirees: April 29th after the Climate March. Tuesday, July 11th with Permaculture Woodinville, including a workday.

Next Meeting: Monday, April 24th

Facilitator: Patricia

NoteTaker: Jacob