

Biogaian Meeting
October 13 2020
Budget discussion

In attendance: Laura, Helen, Brian, Anita, Elizabeth, Mary, Matt, Lucas, Patricia, Eileen
Facilitator: Brian
Scribe: Anita replacing Sylvan

Helen, Mary, and Anita met to discuss the biogaian budget for 2020.

We didn't spend out what we thought we did last year. Most of that was Covid-interrupted.

Notes on Songaia Assn Landscape budget:

Tools/parts increased including biochar and other items
Hardscape increased because we've talked about fixing up the grape arbor
Brush dumpster stayed the same
Consumables was consolidated into Tools/parts line
Consolidated Meadow/swale labor into one line of 800
Consolidated the goat lines for feed and vaccinations
We bumped up the arborist budget to 5000 from 3000.
Kept money toward improving the intern space
We're hoping that the UW forest group will re-engage by the fall, so we budgeted for that.
We budgeted \$1000 for repairs and maintenance on the Big Green Truck. Could possibly go toward replacement as well.

Ended up being \$2000 more requested than last year. We have just under 3000 that we haven't used from 2020.

Brian says a \$2000 increase is a pretty large chunk to try to absorb. He'd feel more comfortable with a 500-1000 increase. If our 2020 budget can cover some of the projected 2021 arborist work, then it'd balance out. Or we can put something from what didn't get used this year into a truck savings fund. Purchasing materials and having them on hand is another way to go about it.

Any money that's not spent in the budget this year goes toward the dues for next year. Unused funds lower fees.

Brian will call the arborists and see if they can do more this year out of the 2020 budget. We will only ask for a \$500 increase from last year for the Songaia Assn portion of the Biogaian budget.

Notes on funding from g2t club budget

Plants, trees, and seeds were consolidated
Renamed "Stewardship" line "Orchard"
Biggest difference is "Microshelter" proposal of \$2500.

If you take out the micro shelter proposal we are only about \$500 more in requests from last year.

What advice does the g2t treasurer have for us?

As some may know, we're looking at an increase in food costs. It's pretty clear the garden produce has helped bring that number in more reasonable line. We were looking to be almost 2000 over, and now with all the harvest food coming out, we may get closer to only 500 over. We've made ground on that. There will still be some increase. We are looking at additional optional fee for folks who want to pay a little more on a sliding scale. Putting the 2500 for the microshelter would be a large piece to chew and swallow in the food budget.

The microshelter will be funded through other means.

Jean's Gift/Abundance fund/Etc

High Tunnel loan
Intern shelter
Electric to journeys
Truck replacement
New freezer
Apple press

Ideas for how to spend the rest of the tool budget:

Cattle panel for garden
Orchard tools, replacement blades, pole pruner.
Materials for compost tea
Amendments for potting soil
Big roll of twine
Wheelbarrows, carts

Bring Proposals for how to spend the budget

Next meeting:

Oct 27, 2020 7:15 pm

Anita Facilitate next meeting

Jack or Sylvan scribes

