

## Biogaian Meeting 3/4/25

Facilitator: Brian Scribe: Patricia  
Helen, Patricia, Brian, Brent, Eileen, David

- **Bastyr Student Visit** (Brian) – Students from Bastyr visited on Sunday last (March 2), They are students of Nicole Telkes Wildcrafting class – students from a number of different programs. At the end Nicole closed with a song – Sanctuary. There are possibilities for further opportunities to work with Nicole.
- **Compost Update** (Reuben) – Laura, Anita and Helen sat down with Reuben to create a plan for catching up on the compost and also about rebuilding the compost bins. Some interest in building the bins inside the garden next to west edge of the new garden fence. Laura is helping to organize additional help to work on the backlog....Reuben and Barb have built piles using five of the ten backed up kitchen waste cans.
- **SW Corner Garden Rabbit Fence Build Date** (Brian) – Scheduled for April 26<sup>th</sup>. We will send out an invite to the community when we get closer to the date.
- **Intern Update** (Helen) Anita has had several inquiries but not much follow-up. There is one person who is a dietetic Intern and is interest in August and September. There is some concern because dual interns in the past have been a problem. Ugo Perrier from France is also interested in coming back. Patricia is also connecting with two high school students that might be interested. Anita is scheduled for several college summer program internships information sessions.
- **Arborist Tool (David)** – David and Nartano would like to purchase a pull saw with 10-inch chain and 14-foot reach. It would give us lots more flexibility in doing our own arborist work. The cost is about \$1500 – including two batteries and a charger. Life Song Commons would be willing to donate approximately \$600 if we are willing to have a workday to clear their driveway. We would like this to be funded from the Arborist line-item. This would probably also save us significantly in the Arborist line item in the budget.

***Approved if LSC decides to pay for up to \$600.***

- **MD's Proposal** (Patricia) – MD requested we consider paying them \$4,000 this year to coordinate paid work at Songaia. Helen, Patricia, Anita and Laura spent some time looking at the proposal and created a counter proposal to guarantee \$200 a month and if MD coordinated more than \$1,000 in any once month, then we would pay them 20% of the total. For example if in a month the total comes to \$1,200 then MD would be paid \$240.
  - MD needs to have all the technical training needed in order to be able to make sure that workers are trained properly to use the tools. Specifically there is concern about the tools that use a gas/oil mixture.
  - We would need some documentation about the system that they created last year to coordinate the work.
  - This still doesn't deal with the question about worker's comp (L&I) insurance. Can all of this go through Blackstar Farmers?

***To Do: Patricia will communicate this to MD and request that they attend the next possible Biogaian meeting after their return.***

- **Golden Raspberries** (Helen) – Is there someone willing to get the raspberries planted?

***To Do: Patricia is willing to see if she can get Jack, Brent and Erin to help get some of them planted in March.***

**PARKING LOT:** for future decisions requiring detailed planning for implementation.  
Further discussion with MD regarding coordinating paid work.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday 3/25/25

**Facilitator:** Eileen

**Scribe:** ?Anita (backup Helen)