

Biogaian 9/30 Meeting

Facilitator: MD, Notes: Patricia

Attendees: Helen Anita Eileen MD Patricia

Opener: What are we leaving behind in summer's end and turning towards?

Budget Report – 2025

- GTT budget has nothing in dumpster and has \$1500 in orchard care. Request that we move \$1,000 to dumpster and leave \$500 in orchard care.
- Pretty much on target for our current expenses.
- Balance remaining in NRCS budget \$3790 as expected

2026 Budget Prep

- Rollover last year's budget except for
 - Increase hourly labor cost for L&I insurance
 - Adding \$1,000 to pay Anita to prune trees in January & February

Garden Report

- Harvest – more grapes to harvest but moving along on that, lots of winter squash coming, dry farm tomatoes,
- Compost rebuild/interim plan – waiting on Brian to be available to finish the build, probably be another month before they are finished.
We need to check in with Reuben to see if he needs some support, MD will check in with him.
- Intern Program – they are here for one more month. On the 11th there will be a debrief of this year's interns.
- Fallow Quad – we will rehab the soil and put back into production next year.
- Cider/Apple Plan – pressed some this weekend and at the Innovation Lab. We need to schedule one more big pressing day – we would need to reserve the press from the tool library on the last weekend of October. David will see if he can reserve it for that weekend. Anita will check out the cider press in her grandpa's estate and see if it one we would like to have. Maybe schedule a cider press around ancestor remembrance day early November. Need to think about how to store the apple harvest. MD might have a place she could store a box in Seattle.

Tree pruning – some pruning has been happening. Did some of the stone fruit trees, the easter egg tree is not healthy. Apples and pears will be pruned in the new year. Patricia will invite interested people to discuss the trees between the South orchard and Life Song Commons during the last couple of weeks of October. David will then look at them and decide how much he could do. We might get some help from Journeys for firewood.

David is working on removing dead limbs on trees on the property.

David could also work with Anita in the winter pruning for some of the larger limbs.

Forest – there are a couple of projects in the forest – David needs to organize it. There are some large dead trees in the southeast corner. They might be threatening the upper camp circle. David will have a conversation with West and determine if it was something we need to take care of.

Bids for the split trees – from two contactors – one was very high, one was reasonable but had comments about the installation that were confusing about the methodology. He will keep working on it.

Landscaping – David could do more trimming if someone will help him figure out what to do and haul away the debris, he would be willing to do more pruning.

Path Clearing – Part of the issue is the style of pruning. When it is pruned it needs to be pulled back further. Eileen will do a little research on how to prune the plants on the west side of the path next to the raspberries.

Parking Lot: pruning the plants next to the upper patio.

Next Meeting: October 28th

Facilitator: Patricia

Notes: Helen