

Tuesday, May 28, 2024

Biogaian Meeting Minutes

Attending: MD, Bonnie, Helen, Laure, Eileen, David, Sylvan, Brian, Miranda, Anita

Reports

- **Orchard (Helen):** 11 apple trees are netted, conversation started with MD about mowing the south orchard
- **Update on Crestmont Food Forest (MD):** All expressed that it is looking really good; getting mowed every two weeks, to continue throughout the growing season, then as needed.
- **Garden (Anita):** Planting is all on track, LOTS of tomatoes, lettuce / cilantro is moving along. A new intern, Jena, will be joining us middle of June (6/19) through end of October. Three more interviews with non-residential interns. Still would like another residential intern (or a couple). Rueben has some ideas for the compost bins - possible relocating them. New spot for squash, back of Unit 3, swampy area in the NW quad of the garden continues to spread and grow - possibly adding blueberries to that area. Sylvan asked about growing oats, possibly in the dry farming area. This seemed possible.
- **Forest (David):** Things continue to grow into the paths - need for some clearing. Some confusion regarding where is the beaked hazelnut. The drone inspection didn't give much insight into the health of the large trees; the camera had trouble distinguishing the new growth from the background.

Discussions

Bags of Mulch

What do we do with these since we don't know where they came from or what they have in them. Brian will move them into a path near the Journeys area by the end of June.

Work Party Dates (with lead person)

Songaia Driveway Entry (Sylvan): June 22

Clearing and planting in the area near the Songaia sign near the goat shed. Sylvan has a plan for a pollinator garden there.

Forest work Party:

Work that is not very heavy; can do this on Thursday May 30.

Dry Farm work party: June 1

Manure hauling and some planting; building a fence to keep chickens contained.

Caltrap Trees in Hammerhead (Eileen): July 20

continue cutting back and disposing of these shrubs near the hammerhead

West Rabbit Fence: July 6

Rebuilding some part of the west fence

Biogaian area in Barn (): July 20 (or raining day alternate)**Orchard Care and Thinning (Mary):** Ask Mary

Mulching, thinning and general care

Compost Bins (Rueben): Ask Rueben

Rebuilding and possibly relocating.

Schedule

Anita is gone the last week of June

Helen and Laura are gone in the middle of June for a week.

Parking Lot (possible agenda items for next meeting)

- Interest in different experiments in Crestmont FF with connections to next door neighborhood - MD
- Financial report - Helen and Brian
- Talking with Paul: about swale care and and pipe in dry farm and garden gates

Assessment

- **What went well:** Facilitation, scheduling, people coming, hearing from MD about the involvement of others in the care of Crestmont, feels more sustainable.
- **What can be Improved:** Cookies

Next Meeting: June 25th. Helen (facilitator) and Laura (scribe)