

Biogaians Meeting 1/23/24 on Zoom

Present: Patricia, facilitator; mary, scribe; Anita; Helen; Brian; Bonnie; Eileen
opening question: what aspect of water do you find most appealing?

Garden Steward Updates by Anita:

- 4 UW students are here wed. & fri. 9-3 until mid-March focusing on restoring the native plant propagation nursery behind Nancy's shed and beginning to propagate from the Cultural Forest plantings. photos shared. a few discussion points: Brian experienced deer damage in that site on apple trees saplings; Nancy's shed roof will need repair/replacement soon; big pile of random wood nearby?!
- Katie Vincent is exploring offering trainings on site here for propagation, fruit tree & bush pruning and rose pruning. we discussed reciprocity, use of Songaia tools on site, volunteer waivers, use of ROPJ base camp, parking ...
- **Anita will make an announcement** to community inviting input, feedback, or concerns about Katie workshops here. **mary will ask Sylvan** about rose pruning concerns.
- lots of inquiries for our 2024 Garden/Summer Internships. Anita and others are still working on the wording of materials. also, considering extending the program through October.
- the ad hoc intern retreat held last month is considering creating a non-profit to fund and manage the intern program independently from GTT or Biogaians including housing and stipends.

Budget 2024 by Helen:

the revised GTT part of the Biogaian budget has been reduced from what was requested. we discussed and tweaked the supplies line, NRCS grant, and projects planned for 2024 and agreed on the numbers presented to be used in the proposed GTT budget to club members soon.

projects planned for 2024 include: aerating and reseeding the loop with more pollinator friendly seed mix and rebuilding the west rabbit fence for the garden.

Patricia will schedule the loop reseeding work. the NRCS orchard floor work needs to happen soon, has no lead or plan and will not generate much income.

Orchard Report by mary:

winter pruning is happening; raking, liming and mulching are behind.

i will not be able to do spring spraying, we may need to pay someone to take this on. holistic spraying has slowed the spread of anthracnose (common disease which kills trees) as well as helped with healthier fruit. spraying happens based on fruiting bud development and weather, usually March - May. there was support for recruiting someone for this and using labor \$\$\$. mary will be a resource and check in with possible folx.

Garden Harvest Log, charts by Reuben:

straw poll whether this is useful given how much work the data gathering, and input are: YES!! maybe aim for monthly or quarterly so not such a big one time job.

CalTrap workday, Eileen:

will plan for late feb

is David and the Forest work group part of Biogaians?

Parking Lot:

- shrub pruners?
- Neglected areas of our landscape ... community roundtable?
- transplanting asparagus?

evaluations, all positives:

- photos, graphs and spreadsheets
- zoom, given the above
- efficient

next meeting: 2/27/24 mary facilitate; Helen scribe