

September 26, 2023 Biogaians Meeting

Facilitator: interns

Scribe: Miranda

In attendance: Anita, Patricia, Fae, Izzy, Joanna, Julia, Helen, Laura, Bonnie, David, Eileen, Miranda, Paul

Biogaian Agenda:

Reports and Discussion

- **Budget and compost bin supplies repair**
 - Helen: Budget report cleaner this year. Integrating items to make more clear for bookkeeping. Accounting in Zarifah's hands. NRCS grant from USDA has more from this unspent than expected. Crestsong not as expensive as thought, used same irrigation so didn't replace. No paid labor for other landcare this year (yet).
 - What do we want to ask these organizations for next year?
 - Do we ask for same amounts next year? Use it or lose it?
 - "We overestimated so we don't need that much next year"
 - With simplified bookkeeping, will be easier to decide (with 10 categories instead of 30+)
 - Patricia: wants to see what quarter 4 will look like. Can Helen, Anita, Laura, Mary sit down and talk about what this last quarter will cost ? (yes)
 - Permaculture convergence cost?
 - **Supplies** can be purchased this year- plants that Mary suggested, gates (\$500)
 - Where do we buy things to build the gate? And where do we stash supplies?
 - Reuben is the one who is interested in rebuilding compost bins
 - Say yes to rebuilding compost bins (several hundred dollars)
 - Several requests for **new plants**: \$250 and \$150 from Mary
 - Remove laurel bush from North exit of driveway, not replace anything (yet?)
 - David and Laura will work on this
 - Buy native elderberry to shade Egg Plant (\$50)
 - Three new blueberries for end of potting shed (\$150)
 - Arch for weeping mulberry (sad boi) \$100
 - Fertilizer and lye for stumps removed from food forest to decay (a salt, not toxic) to prevent re-growth (\$50)
 - Laura: Jars for canning, driers, etc. (for preserving.) Patricia: Jars for canning is from food program not Biogaians.
 - Helen: Recommends approve all of this because it won't use up that much money of all the funds leftover. Agreed without objection.
 - Patricia / Bonnie: upgrade microshelters? Insulation (to keep bugs out) / sealing cracks.
 - Assign ceiling of microshelter to someone so don't forget.
 - David: \$500 for stump grinder. Patricia: No I don't think we ought to grind them because they are not in the way of anything. We agree that David will apply the fertilizer/lye treatment.
- **Garden steward report**
 - Anita: season is shifting, crops slowing down .pulling in harvest from orchards: apples, asian pears. Some zucchinis, tomatoes.
 - How can we feed the beds? (cleared and covered for season.)

- Only have interns for three more weeks.
- Next week 10/6-8 is permaculture convergence.
- Field trips in the next few weeks.

Discussion

- Patricia: we should do a **demo mixed lawn** (like in the triangle). The lawn needs to be dethatched and dump compost on it, re-seed. Let's get estimate for it. (Patricia willing to get estimate for it to be done by a business, not us).
- David is going to choose some quaking aspen in Loop to save to grow.
- **update on forest:**
 - David: Work party last weekend got all the logs out of 224th and got them up into the mushroom area or in wood shed. Half of them cut into fire wood lengths. Journeys wants to coordinate doug fir cut up for firewood for their purposes. Want to put switchback in one area of forest because having a bit of an erosion problem. A couple more trees need to come out in next year.

Announcements

- **Goat care after October 15**
 - Izzy: Jack N will take over feeding them after Oct. 15
 - Helen: Will need to do something about cottonwoods that will grow up, and blackberries, in their place if they leave.
 - We spent less on goat feed this year than usual.
- **Intern farewell event**
 - Pizza party and karaoke 10/14. Say goodbye on pizza party night?
- **Retention**
 - Laura: we were never contacted us this year about inspecting retention pond (per Paul), but if they do there is some work that will need to be done.
 - Eileen/Patricia: We have a wetland west of the detention pond; have thought about doing work on it but never have (energy deficit)
 - Laura: add this to NRCS projects ?
 - Laura organizing retention pond work if needed.

Evaluation:

what went well?

- Eileen: New budget form
- Helen: thank you for idea, Pat. Patricia: thank you helen for implementing.
- Helen: organized facilitation (thank you)
- Helpful that things were sent before meeting, and helpful that things had dollars and cents

What could have gone better?

- Next time more room for notes on board.

Power imbalances that anyone noticed?

- n/a

Oct 10/24

Facilitator: Anita

Scribe: Bonnie