Biogaians Meeting 5/26/26

Decision Summary:
Action Items:
PN updating garden map
HG and AH drafting Harvest Coordinator work flow

Approved:
money for soil testing, seeds
money for gravel

Discussion:

Facilitating: Brian
Scribe: MD
Present: Brian, Eileen, MD, Patricia, Anita, Aditi, Holly, Laura, Helen

Check in: What's your internal weather report?
BB– Morning clear sky, sun not yet up, much promise for the day
EM – Setting sun in my eyes no matter where I am.
Appreciating Sylvan for pruning herbs away from the path
MD – cozy warm sunshine nap
PN- forecast for Saturday is SUNNY!
AH – waiting for the rain, unusually long cycle, but now its raining and seeds are germinating
A - sleeping at night! Going to bed and waking up after the sun rises, body has arrived!
HB – greenhouse weather! Sorghum weather! They are doing amazing
HG – big towering grey clouds all around but a sunbreak right where I am
L- had a migraine this time two weeks ago, and again today

How does the garden grow?
H- won't put Sorghum in until July so can help with keyhole until then
A – planted two rows of green beans inside hoop house near lettuce. Be careful with them. Planted 11 new colors of Dahlias this year! Gifted to us from Wonder Bloom. will clear another bed for more beans, need yellow bean seeds, McLendon's has more yellow beans
AH – basils getting big, ready for first pinching. Ill keep them in greenhouse a little while longer. Cover crop seeded in south orchard coming up and looking good! Forest garden in ol forest have come back! Maidenhair fern, pacific waterleaf, piggyback plant, golden current, coastal black gooseberry, pacific starflower, vanilla leaf, 8 different trillium patches this year, new orange honeysuckle – can grow 30 ft high in the Douglas fir. This year more honeysuckle!
PN – zucchini up, planted winter squashes too
MD – milpa (corn, beans, squash) starting to do amazing behind unit 3
EM – has helped wash lettuce and yesterday basically did second banana, would like to get some pineapple ground cherries, ask Jack

BB – tomatoes doing well, the ones in main garden beds have transitioned and are getting their growth on! Emitters and irrigation is helping a lot. They're in different beds than before too so that combo is probably helping. Dry farm tomatoes are transitioning, seem like they're gonna do fine in there. Have Spring Kings, and Stupiche too. Interesting to see how they do there. Trying azoychke and another full size ones in there too. Plum tomatoes in there too. One more bed to plant up. Maybe some in some pots. Although the soil in there needs rejuvenating. Thinking about moving them to half wall on the plaza near emitters. Leftover plants available
L- Keyhole, right outside there is half bed of chard, several herbs that I am pruning back and babying. Jostaberries are coming on. Parsley, save chives but they're surrounded by deep weeds, strawberry bed sad but I am waiting. Flowers, poppy, iris, aster
HG- B and A check in regarding last bed, kale and parsleys, lettuce! Harvest whole heads from north row right against the plastic. Peas and potatoes, Helen will tell you about them, more peas getting soaked to go in
MD: look at the back of the keyhole with Holly on Wednesday at 5:30
EM – D and J went to the forest where there was a previous fire circle and cut a leaning tree down, another branch of a maple needs to be removed, he's been doing well with an extension saw, unless he starts wrestling with a branch, pleased with how the work in forest has gone today
BB – wev'e been watching the tree for all winter, its leaning way over but it was pinched so it was ok. Amazing to see how D cut the tree down swiftly. How did he keep from getting smacked in the head with it?

Action Item: Patricia update garden map

Soil Rejuvenation Plan

NE focuses on function, nitrogen fixing, weed supression, sorghum is amazing to deter growth of buttercup and bindweed in beds. Leaving 1 bed unseeded because its full of potatoes.

Leaving a fallow bed will help with soil testing. The whole quadrant will be mixed up so its ok if some are fallow

Will be using a soil test called "Soil Test" Seems like this endeavor will be quite a bit of money. First round was $260, another round in fall will be similar
Cover crop varieties, sorghum Sudan grass, crimson clover, cowpeas, buckwheat, mustard, millet, fava beans, radish, grapeseed, sunflower,. Picked for their ability to break down quickly over the summer when its time to terminate them. Got enough for the NW quadrant and the strawberry bed. Sent out video on the difference between Compost tea and compost drench,

got fancy new microscope to look at compost under microscope, if its healthy enough we can go right into compost drenches, drenches will be applied once cover crops are established.

NW quad is helping to til this quad with broad fork and remove bindweed to sow. Highish diversity mix. 12 different kinds.

$300 for soil testing – finger wiggles all around

Irrigation

- Beans need tape on the southern bed
- plastic lines are getting old and not watering easily. More roles of tape in the shed
- order more tape?
- South bed of greenhouse needs irrigation and timer. AG needs support, AH agrees to help
- Irrigation to the spiral, might need a lot of work, AH can put it on list but doesn't know how quickly she can get to it
- Thinking about sprinklers for the keyhole, so a sprinkler might be able to water that
- Need gravel to fix irrigation in path near, Brian will order it
- N says, "fucking remember it" I mean "if I can remember it" he is contacting someone about backflow prevention. They want to loop in Crestsong's system

Goats Club + $

- Have a group kind of like the Chicken Possy to help with their care. BS is happy to have help with the goats. We buy the chow from the NRCS grant. Questions about what kind of budget we want to consider.
- Right now the budget is $600 per year
- Equipment and other needs feels minimal costwise
- Historically we have done vaccinations and can do them again
- $ for Vet care
- Some NRCS funds avail

Harvest Planning + Freshsheets

- Harvest Organizer – this feels Important
    - Would review menu and decide what is in the garden
    - A garden crop would
    - A different way to specify what day someone is going to do a harvest. Harvest group that decides amongst itself who does the harvest
    - Need a Harvest Organizer which could be one of the meals jobs coordination jobs – is a job that can operate on limited mobility
        - The organizer could nudge the person growing each crop or the crop person could nudge the coordinator like, " I have so many zuchinnis becoming ripe"
    - This could be step 1, coordinator would know
    - Tues night Wednesday morning to mark up chefs list
    - Might have to go back to zucchini person to ask for the numbers
    - After this list goes to shoppers, then the coordinator reaches out the different people who will harvest "cooks expecting a cup of chives for Wednesday)
    - See hand out
    - HB interested in doing Harvest Coordinator
    - Harvest horizon

    - Person growing each crop will be proactive in reaching out to coordinator because we want to get the produce used
    - More signs about “don’t pick”
    - Could coordinator job offer reciprocity for HB?
- Next Steps
    - Written proposal, Helen willing to write it up. Because its new, its unclear how much work a freshsheet will take
    - Pilot this as a smaller job
    - AG interested in how to create more meals program jobs to plug people into
    -

Grassy Meadow:
Tekmil/feedback circle on Wednesday Garden Parties

Next Meeting:
June 9, 7 pm
MD Facilitate
Patricia Notetaker