

Biogaian Meeting 1/24/23

Facilitator: Helen

Notetaker: Patricia

Present: Helen, Patricia, Ka, Anita, Miranda, Mary

Reports and Announcements

UW student projects/plan (Anita)

- Lovely visual report on the first few weeks. They worked in the Native Forest Garden, goat fencing, work with Ka and propagating pacific nine bark
- Not sure they will do some work in the forest

Rose pruning workshop (Mary)

- Talking with Katie Vincent to see if she would be interested in doing a workshop as a part of her business for pay. She will use Songaia as a site to host the workshop. Probably late February. This might be the first of more. More discussion is needed.

NRCS agronomist visit (Mary/Anita)

- Marty ____ from NRCS visited. Did receive some ideas. They think buttercup and grass is not so bad. She is not someone who has studied permaculture. In the south orchard we will be working on a grant by 2025. Remove the ivy. They were not concerned about the buttercup moving in. Need to think about removing the hedgerow to provide more sunlight. Kick over the mole holes and broadcast cover crop. Seed in the fall. Any work we do before 2025 can be included as part of the project. For instance, removing the ivy is pre-preparation. Document what we do – photos.

Garden intern recruitment (Anita)

- WWOOFing page is updated, annual fee is paid. Seeing some people expressing interest.

Items for Discussion/Decision

Storage of electric weed-eater (Ka)

- On and next to the counter in the Biogaian area in the barn.

Crestsong Food Forest (Helen)

- Hire landscape company? Cost would be \$420 for the first mow in April and \$240 for each additional mow – maybe June, August, and October. Budget has \$3000 total for fixing the irrigation, hiring the landscaping and cost of water. Put it out for a week to the Saplings to see if anyone would like to pick up the job for the summer. If no one does, hire them for one year. Helen is willing to put it out and see if anyone responds.
- Irrigation plan?

Hanging limb over parking lot (Helen)

- Mary will take on the task of figure out what would be the priorities for the arborists and bring it to the February meeting of the Biogaians. Helen will chat with NES about their priorities.

Reseeding the loop (Patricia)

- Recommending that we aerate/dethatch the commons, spread a couple yards of compost and reseed with a meadow lawn mix. Schedule in late September.

Wood bay workday? (Mary/Anita?)

- Paul said he would organize a wood bay workday when he comes back.

Hedgerow between Songaia and LSC (Mary)

- Is our priority as a community fruit from that space? Is it worth having an orchard there? Wait and watch. Mary can chat with community members about what to do and how to use arborist dollars.

Next meeting/leadership rotation for 2023

Facilitator: Patricia

Scribe: Miranda