

## BIOGAIAN MEETING MINUTES

May 22, 2017

Present: Jacob, Patricia, Mary, Suzie, Douglas, Brian, Laura, Brent, Sylvan

### **Personal Brush Disposal**

This is a complex problem which will require changes in behavior. Chipping at the end of Lost Lake Road. Who will chip and when. Will homeowners do their own chipping? Is this realistic? Rain cover needed for machinery. When we chip the wood we see it as a resource and put it back in to the land. Several thoughts of burning. The consensus is to try to get people to take their brush to a brush pile in the Journey's base camp where it will be used as firewood. People need clear directions as to how to prepare brush, the definition of brush and exactly where to put it. Will we chip some as well? Brent will make clear where the area is with the possible use of cones or signs or roping off. No decision was made as to who would communicate our solution to the community.

### **Herbicide use**

Katie is concerned about our decision to use Round Up on the blackberries. We discussed this at length and there has been some communication between Mary and Katie. Brian will have a discussion with Katie to discuss her concerns. Patricia will contact Carter regarding digging v/s herbicide. Suzie will get a bid for digging. Sylvan will write an email, send it to members of Biogaians for timely suggestions, edits etc. and then send it out to the Greater Neighborhood community.

### **Grass**

Patricia had a discussion with the company that reseeded our common area grass las Fall. They had offered at that time to return and reseed patches which did not thrive. The original discussion was that this would be done at no additional cost. They are now asking for \$350 and the rain will be tapering now. Decision was to buy a bag of lawn seed and plant it in the Fall.

### **Next Garden manager**

Beginning discussion about hiring of a new Garden Manager when Patricia retires. Laura wrote a detailed Job Description las year. We will use that as a basis to work from. Patricia will look at it and take out the items that she does with her "community hat" on. We will do editing to create a shorter document. Brian will add salary and benefits piece. Patricia has a candidate in mind and has spoken with her extensively. Her name is Zarifah and she may be a renter at Songaia. She will work in the garden this summer to get a better picture of the position and work load. For now, as others have expressed interest, we will have a job description available. Is there an application? Will we advertise at the Woodinville Permaculture group?

### **Chicken vision Revival ( Ok so are you picturing a gospel chicken revival?!)**

Members are interested in resurrecting the chicken project. We have a set of plans from Sylvan. The blueprints need to be expanded. Patrick was approached but may be too busy to do that. Still thinking of 20 chickens. The plan is to have the chicken "run" along the south side of the garden. The project intersects with the rabbit fencing plan. It was noted that we do have several project on deck right now.

### **Wetland Restoration**

We will discuss this topic in June. Parking lot.

### **Micro-shelter**

Work that needs to be done; siding, window, hang door, railings, roofing and work on moveable wall. There is a work day planned for this Saturday, May 27 from 10 – 3. Then some of the building crew will head out to the Folk Life festival.

### **Tree Pruning**

The trees around the common house are in need of pruning as there is a plan for a new roof. There is also concern for the branches being used by rats to get to the roof. Patricia and Mary met with Arborist, Scott from Arborwell. He suggested that we do the work ourselves. There was a work party to begin the project and progress was made. There will need to be 2 more sessions with 2-3 people. The team needs someone who is willing to do work on the roof with power tools. Brian offered to help with that.

### **Goat Poop**

Poop, poop, and wet straw poop...Some of the poop will go to Diane and Lisa's back yard. Some may be taken to the food forest. The poop needs to be cleaned up before our detention pond/swale inspection.

### **Rabbit Fence**

Yes, there will be a rabbit fence at last. We will work on "sequentially integrated plan" which will include the fence, the gathering space (and maybe the coop?). The focus of energy will be in July after much of the garden is in and when we will have six interns here! Hooray!!!

### **Parking lot items**

-purchase grass seed to sow in the Fall

-wetland restoration

**NEXT MEETING:** JUNE 26, 7:15 PM

CHAIR, LAURA

Scribe, Susie

July meeting the 24<sup>th</sup>

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Klepfer