



## **ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 4/17/2022**

**Mission Statement:** ECO-Vrindaban promotes cow protection, local agriculture, and above all, loving Krishna, as envisioned by Srila Prabhupada, ISKCON New Vrindaban's Founder-Acharya.

Participating Board Members: Anuttama, Jamuna Jivani (board secretary), Makara (chair), Ranaka, and Vraja.

Participating Advisors: Chaitanya Mangala and Jaya Krsna

### **1. Ranaka's Monthly Report**

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi (Temple Barn)
  - There are seven cows being milked: Subhadra, Jaya Radhe, Gaurangi, Yashoda, Gopi Katyayani, Puspavati, and Satyabhauma.
  - The cows are producing approximately 28 gal per day
  - Anandavidya is making 20-30 lb of butter per week
  - There are four calves at the barn: Govardhana (ox), Kaustubha (bull calf), Nandulala (bull calf), and Bahula (heifer).
  - Yashoda had an injury to her udder from another cow which has healed.
  - Sri Badarayani had been consistently working with the calves and occasionally milks with us.
  - Jayasri was dried off and is with Dharma at the Valley Barn.
  - Bhisma was moved from the Valley Barn to Nandagram.
  - Gopinath and Gandharvika are residing in Bahulaban.
  - The Temple Barn roof seems to be leaking again and will be looked at.
  - A few of the cows seem to have hoof issues due to the muddy environment. We are researching the best way to address this.
- Atmarama (Nandagram)
  - Removed dead trees and brush
  - Cut and removed trees that had fallen across fencing

- Maintained both barns
- Electrical wiring in the garage for lights and receptacles.
- Fenced in the bullpen summer pasture.
- Insulated the attic in the garden house.
- Supplied water and hay for the oxen.
- Cleaned and organized the garage.
- Cleaned manure out of the bull barn.
- Organized and stored scrap lumber for repurposing.
- Ray
  - Delivered hay to Temple and Bahulabhan barns as needed.
  - Fed cows and cleaned Valley Barns daily.
  - Spread limestone around the Valley Barn and Valley High Tunnels.
  - Continued the clean up of the Valley Barns and shop space, sending unneeded metal to recycle yard, disposed of waste, and reorganizing
  - Spring fence repair at the Valley Barn
  - Picked up potato seed and fertilizer
  - Cut the potato seed for planting
- Yudhisthira (New Yamuna Valley Farms Ox Training)
  - The oxen pair have been residing at the Valley Barn while fence repairs and reinforcements are taking place at New Yamuna Valley Farm. They are expected to return to New Yamuna Valley Farm by April 15.
- Suchandra (Teaching Garden, Valley Barn Flower Beds, Vidya's Garden & High Tunnel)
  - Teaching Garden & Valley Barn Flower Beds
    - Added peat moss to the beds that were getting too much water.
    - Laid some mulch on the bulb beds.
    - Protected the bulbs when it got very cold by covering and uncovering those that were coming up early
    - Fixed multiple beds that got washed out from rainwater coming off road into the Teaching Garden.
    - Worked on diverting water from the road in other directions.
    - Planted dahlia bulbs.
    - Started some cannas in pots.
    - Started some peas in the teepee structure.
  - Vidya's Garden & High Tunnel
    - Secured the plastic mulch after it had blown up.
    - Covered up the manure
    - Checked the high tunnels and cleaned up the carnations
    - Delivered lily bulbs
    - Picked 41 hyacinth and took them to the temple.
    - Transplanted some marigolds.

- Analaksita (Valley High Tunnels #1 & #2, Outside Garden)
  - High Tunnel #1
    - Temporary greenhouse was disassembled and removed. All shelving, lights, and heat mats were put back into the office.
    - Plants were covered and uncovered according to temperature daily.
    - Plants were watered when needed.
    - Lettuce, lacinato kale, flat leaf kale, spinach, collard greens, broccoli and cauliflower greens were harvested and delivered to the Temple.
  - High Tunnel #2
    - Plants were covered and uncovered according to temperature daily.
    - Plants were watered when needed, carnations usually daily.
    - Lettuce, kale, collard greens and spinach were harvested and delivered to the Temple.
  - Both High Tunnels
    - Temporary greenhouse was disassembled and removed. All shelving, lights and heat mats were put back into the office.
    - Plants were covered and uncovered according to temperature daily.
    - Plants were watered when needed.
    - Lettuce, lacinato, flat leaf kale, spinach, collard greens, broccoli and cauliflower greens were harvested and delivered to the Temple.
  - Valley Garden Barn
    - The barn had a maha cleanup and was organized and swept out.
    - The wash station was cleaned regularly.
    - A dumpster was delivered, and we have been clearing more garbage from the surrounding area.
  - Outdoor Garden
    - The side garden was successfully tilled, and manure added.
    - The large garden had ground cover removed to allow it to get sun and air to dry out and get ready for tilling.
    - The expansion was measured and staked.
    - Built a three-compartment compost pile and the current pile was moved into it.
  - Office Greenhouse
    - We have tomatoes, hot peppers, eggplants, flowers, cucumbers, celery and bell peppers that have been sprouted and transplanted, and ready for planting. We have also started sprouting for the tomatoes that go outdoors and will soon begin sprouting our outdoor squash, peppers, cucumbers, and flowers. Windows were opened and closed daily according to temperature to allow air flow. Plants watered and checked on a daily basis.
  - Production from the Valley High Tunnels for February & March 2022:

- Arugula – 5.5 lb
- Beet Greens – 9 lb
- Bok Choy – 74.5 lb
- Broccoli – 1 lb
- Cabbage – 16.5 lb
- Carrots – 14 lb
- Collard Greens – 84.5 lb
- Kale – 40.5 lb
- Lettuce – 68.6 lb
- Micro Greens - .25 lb
- Radish – 24 lb
- Spinach – 23.75 lb
- Swiss Chard – 4.5 lb

#### Ranaka

- Purchased a 75 HP tractor with loader from Knight's Farm Supply. Knight's delivered it to Nandagram and picked up the 5095 John Deere trade-in.
- Madhu the six-year-old bull at Nandagram died from what the vet diagnosed as bovine lymphoma.
- Anandavidya and Lalita Gopi found a replacement for Madhu on a farm in Kentucky which raises purebred brown swiss cows. He was delivered and apparently died of shipping fever four days after arrival. They have found another replacement bull from a farm in Indiana, who is scheduled to be delivered in approximately one month.
- Buried the bulls with Atmarama and Ray
- Temple Goshala Herd Count
  - Milking Cows - 7
  - Heifer Calf - 1
  - Bull Calves - 3
- Bahulaban Herd Count
  - Steer - 1
  - Retired Cow - 1
- Valley Barn Herd Count
  - Bull - 1
  - Bred Heifers - 6
  - Being Bred Heifer - 1
  - Open Heifers (not yet breeding age) - 2
  - Retired Cows - 23
  - Steers - 7
- Nandagram Herd Count
  - Steers - 11

- Oxen - 3
- Yudhisthira Herd Count
  - Oxen in Training - 2 (Temporarily residing at Valley Barn)
- The total herd count is 69.

## **2. External Funding Request: up to \$35K for the Devotee Care Department**

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to help support devotees in the New Vrindaban community.

RESOLVED: The Board authorizes up to \$35K in grant funding to the New Vrindaban Village Association for the devotee care department, with the following stipulations:

- Funds will be distributed on a quarterly basis
- The Village Council will provide quarterly reports (including how time is spent, activities, highlights and challenges, etc.) and financial accounting
- The department conducts a community-wide survey to best understand the needs of the community and how to serve its members
- ECO-V maintains the option to have any unused funds returned at the end of the year
- The New Vrindaban Village Association must maintain its 501(c)3 in good standing with the IRS (and provide proof of such to ECO-V)
- A minimum of \$30K of this funding should be allocated to the Devotee Care department.
- Looking to the future, the ECO-V Board recommends that the VA initiate its own fundraising efforts.

## **3. External Funding Request: \$7.5K for ISKCON Ministry for Cow Protection and Agriculture**

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to support cow protection and sustainable agriculture throughout ISKCON.

RESOLVED: The Board approves a grant up to \$7,500 to the North American IMCPA for its expenses for 2022. This grant is contingent upon the NA IMCPA's 501(c)(3) status being current and in good standing.

#### **4. Internal Funding Request: \$3.5K for Nandagram Lawn Mower**

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to maintain its core operations.

RESOLVED: The Board authorizes up to \$3.5K for the purchase of a lawn mower.

#### **Announcements**

The Fall '22 On-Site Joint Board Meetings will be held October 21-23.