



ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 8/16/2020

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 Directors: Anuttama, Jamuna Jivani (board secretary), Makara (chair), Ranaka, and Vraja.

Participating Advisors: Chaitanya Mangala, Jaya Krsna, and Lalita Gopi.

New business

!. Ranaka's Monthly Report

Ranaka reported on the previous month's projects:

- Lalita Gopi (Temple Barn)
 - There are seven cows giving milk: Usha, Sita, Sriya, Jaya Radhe, Vamsika, Lalita, and Gopikatyayani.
 - There are four calves: Yasoda, Bhisma, Vaisnavi, and Radhika Keshavi
 - Usha gave birth to a heifer calf named Radhika Kesavi.
 - The cows are giving 23 gal of milk daily
 - Anandavidya is making 20-30 lb of butter per week
 - Anandavidya and Lalita Gopi brought Usha and her calf to the temple for Janmastami.
 - Parijata was dried and moved to the Valley Barn to be bred by Dharma.
 - Jacob, Rena, and Bhakta Nick have been helping in the mornings. So have Sri Badarayani and his daughter, on occasion.
 - Lalita did some painting.

- Work has been completed on the cement cow entrance ramp at the back of the barn.
- Ray
 - Baled an additional 35 bales of first-cutting hay from the field across the road from Tripada. Also, he baled 71 bales of second cutting from the Valley hay fields. Ray was assisted by Joshua Rama with tedding and raking. To date, 714 800-pound first-cutting round bales have been stacked between the Valley and Nandagram Barns. There are an additional 71 second-cutting bales stacked in the Valley Barn.
 - Rebuilt one of the hay wagons.
 - Maintained and repaired farm equipment.
 - Cleaned up years of accumulated waste behind the new high tunnels. Three 30 cubic yard roll off containers were filled and hauled away.
- Caitanya Bhagavat (Nandagram)
 - Daily general cow care and ensured the safety of the Nandagram herd.
 - Monitored the herd numbers: four cows, 12 steers, and one bull.
 - Ensured cow safety. Planned and arranged for favorable social dynamics among the cows.
 - Took weather precautions.
 - Cow checks, and arranged and facilitated veterinarian visits.
 - Oversaw and supplemented Nandagram's hay stock.
 - Facilitated, monitored, and cared for aging cows, cow pregnancies, and herd accommodations.
 - General barn maintenance.
- Bhakta Joseph
 - Crew: Noah, David, and Bob
 - A few cows with minor injuries were separated from the herd and treated/also in Goshala.
 - Continued fencing the back of Bahulaban. Two large sections were added. The first section will be completed this coming week. Pastures are strained this year due to drought.
 - Restarted work on Madhu's bullpen that was put on pause due to hay harvest and fencing.

- Monique
 - Started working on a new ECO-V website with Makara.
 - Posted content on social media
 - Took pictures at Nandagram for website material
 - Took pictures of the farmers market.
 - Blueberry picking field trip with some of the staff

- Suchandra (Teaching Garden)
 - Picked and delivered to the temple kitchen:
 - Small marigolds - 650
 - Zinnias - 281
 - Gladiolas - 178
 - Lilies – 185
 - Dahlia – 30
 - Blueberries - 5 lb
 - Mowed, weeded, and watered daily
 - Hired Azlun part-time to help out in the garden.

- Analaksita (Vidya & Valley High Tunnels, Vidya Outdoor Gardens)
 - Crew: Moksha, Hari Nama, Gopal, Melody, Savannah, and Elizabeth.
 - Production from the outdoor gardens and all high tunnels for July 2020:
 - High Tunnels 1 & 2
 - Dahlias - 851
 - Marigolds - 6,317
 - Tomatoes - 305.5 lb
 - Beets - 17 lb
 - Green beans - 47 lb
 - Green peppers - 7.5 lb
 - Basil - 8 bags
 - Kale – 4 lb
 - Vidya’s Garden and High Tunnel
 - Carnations - 1,029
 - Small Marigolds - 2,433
 - Large Marigolds - 179
 - Lillies - 99
 - Broccoli - 3 lb

- Peas - 2 lb
 - Green Peppers - 13 lb
 - Bittermelon - 35 lb
 - Cabbage - 2 lb
 - Tomatoes - 87 lb
 - Basil - 16 bunches
 - Gladiolas - 87
 - Sunflowers - 9
 - Green beans - 93 lb
 - Loki - 15 lb
 - Tuberoses- 27
 - Kale - 5 lb
- Ranaka
 - The larger of the two Bahulaban cabins has been completely removed. Plans are now underway to begin demolition of the art studio.
 - The cement pad for the monument installation has been completed by the Temple Barn.
 - The pad area for the Valley Barn monument has been prepared and formed up for the cement pour, which is scheduled for the end of August.
 - Devananda has been prepping and repainting the Valley Barn wood fences a new color (terracotta).
 - With the birth of Radhika Kesavi, the herd count is 68.

3. ECO-V Staff Appreciation Event

Lalita Gopi suggested holding an event in appreciation of the ECO-V staff and volunteers. Attendees would have the opportunity to discuss and share their ECO-V projects with the others. Also, a potluck dinner was suggested and INV has offered to prepare something. The plan would be to invite the community.

Lalita Gopi will take the initiative to organize it. Vraja and Makara will assist.

4. West Virginia Dairy Exemption

West Virginia now has a Rule called the Exempt Dairy Farm Rule. Lalita Gopi and Makara will research this.

5. Food Security Update

On the recommendation of the IMCPA, a tri-board subcommittee was formed to improve food security in New Vrindaban. Some attempts had been made in the past at storing large quantities of dried beans and grains and so some infrastructure already exists for food storage. Here are some of the subcommittee's accomplishments over the past few months:

- circulated a survey on gardening throughout the community
- the old stock was bagged and distributed to the kitchen and the community
- an ISKCON News article was written on the efforts
- a donor is supplying stock on a monthly basis

Considering the uncertainty presented by the coronavirus pandemic, the committee decided to run a pilot program dealing with a smaller volume of goods. The intention is to ensure that the program is sustainable, meaning the supply is stored properly and used timely, before graduating to larger quantities.

A humidifier is needed to reduce the moisture content in the storage area.

6. Bhakti Appreciation T-Shirts

The t-shirts have arrived and are at the Valley Barn, ready to be given to New Vrindaban residents. Some can be distributed at the proposed ECO-V staff appreciation event. 60-70 will be given to Jaya Krsna to distribute at the INV staff outing planned for later in August.