



## **ECO-Vrindaban Board Meeting Minutes 3/14/2021**

**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.

Called to order at 10:04 AM

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

Participating Advisors: Chaitanya Mangala, Ishana, 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. They are Sita, Sriya, Lalita, Usha, Jayasri, Gaurangi, and Subhadra.
    - There are four calves at the Goshala: Radhika Keshavi, Sumitra, Pradyumna, and Aniruddha.
    - Gopi Katyayani has been dried off and will be moved to Nandagram to reside with Madhu the bull.
    - The cows are producing 27 gal of milk per day.
    - Anandavidya is making 20-30 lb of butter weekly.
    - Anandavidya has been taking care of the cleaning which gets more labor intensive with the snow and ice in the cold mornings.
    - Anandavidya helped with feeding and moving hay at the Valley Barn for a day.
    - The cows broke the fence which will need to be repaired.
    - Lalita bought a new power washer.

- Madhuban Orchard
  - Hari Vilas and Bhakta Tom pruned the orchard trees.
  - Lalita Gopi provided tools and supplies.
  - Lalita Gopi and Anandavidya used their tractor to clear the back hill field and remove large piles of garbage.
- Bahulaban Herd Count
  - Steer - 1
- Valley Barn Herd Count
  - Bull - 1
  - Bred heifers - 3
  - Being bred heifer - 1
  - Open young heifers (not yet breeding age) - 2
  - Retired cows - 20
  - Steers - 7
- Ray
  - Feedings and cleaning at the Valley Barn.
  - Moved hay to the Temple Barn as needed.
  - Finished installing new exhaust fans in Valley High Tunnels.
- Caitanya Bhagavat, Bhakta Joseph, and Noah (Nandagram)
  - Daily general cow care and barn maintenance.
  - Monitored the herd numbers:
    - Bull - 1
    - Steers - 3
    - Cow being bred - 1
    - Oxen - 3
    - Retired Cows - 3
    - Steers - 9
  - Checked on Gopinath at Bahulaban.
  - Fed Meloxicam to Bhisma (cow with arthritis)
  - Began spring fence line repairs.
  - Repaired poles in main barn as they have been tilting over the years due to cows and weather.
- Hari Bhakti (Outreach Department)
  - Made 24 posts on Facebook this month and 19 posts on Instagram. The content featured the cows, activities and life on the farm, and some of ECO-V's staff and volunteers
  - Strengthened our outreach efforts by creating attractive ECO-V related content on social media and in this way also appreciated ECO-V staff and volunteers.

- Continued our ECO-V quiz on Facebook as an educational outreach strategy to promote ECO-V's mission by actively interacting with the local (devotee) community as well as the broader public through social media.
- Suchandra (Teaching Garden & Valley Barn Flower Beds)
  - Prepared flower beds in front of Valley Barn offices
- Moksa (Vidya's Garden & High Tunnel)
  - Crew: Hari Nama and Gopal with help from Analaksita, Steve, and Mohan
  - Drain trench filled with gravel and pipe laid.
  - Disinfected high tunnel with vinegar, prewashed, and treated with fungicide.
  - Broad-forked peat moss into empty high tunnel beds.
  - Covered beds outside of high tunnel for weed prevention.
  - Installed dry erase board and hose hangers
- Analaksita (Valley High Tunnels #1 & #2)
  - Crew: Sri Nitai & Bella (Two new workers. They have committed to the season with us.)
  - We also had help from Steve, Tom, and Hari Vilasa.
  - High Tunnel #1
    - Planted 45 tango celery plants, 69 plum roma tomato plants, 3 brandywine tomato plants, SugarSnax carrot seeds, Miyasage daikon radish seeds, red rover radish seeds and boro beet seeds.
    - The high tunnel has been kept weeded and watered.
    - The screen doors were finished
    - On nights below 32° we covered all plants and uncovered them the next morning for both high tunnels.
    - Harvested purple and green kale, radishes, spinach and Kaleabration salad mix (a mix of different baby kales) and delivered to the temple kitchen.
    - Broad forked in a mixture of peat moss and alfalfa pellets to help enrich the soil in between plantings.
    - The plastic was fixed on the sides of both high tunnels which helps with drainage. The snow had pulled it down.
    - Every morning we measure the soil temp, high and low air temperature levels, high and low humidity levels, pH and fertility levels in both high tunnels.
  - High Tunnel #2
    - Transplanted 39 Dagon brussel sprout plants, 124 romaine lettuce, 85 bishop cauliflower, 95 magic broccoli, 40 smooth leaf kale, 16 mamba kale, and approximately 24 dahlias.
    - Seeded Kaleabration salad mix, red snapper spinach, bellezia arugula, arugula, ovations salad mix, Italian red dandelion, watercress, mache and cilantro.

- New drip tape was installed for new plants and seeds. The high tunnel has been kept weeded and watered.
    - Screen doors were finished
    - All plants have been covered on cold nights.
  - Sprouting Station
    - Transplanted our second round of tomatoes, two types of okra, zucchini, yellow squash, and red cabbage
  - Production from outdoor gardens and high tunnels (Vidya, HT #1 & HT #2) for the month of February 2021:
    - Valley High Tunnels:
      - X-Large Bags Organic Kaleabration (Salad Mix) - 2
      - X-Large Bags Organic Purple Kale - 2
      - X-Large Bag Green Kale - 1
- Ranaka:
  - The demolition of the Art Studio and two cabins at Bahulaban has been completed along with the landscaping. Ishana is currently overseeing the seeding of the area with grass.
  - Gintras installed a new well pump timer at Nandagram Garden House.
  - Spoke to a Morton Building representative in regard to an estimate on a Valley Barn maintenance shop. He should have a proposal by next week.
  - Purchased 11 large round bales of second-cutting hay.
  - The herd count remains at 67.

## **2. External Funding Request: \$788K Loan for INV Apartment Building**

WHEREAS: The ECO-V Board wishes to invest a significant portion of the proceeds from the gas lease to fund an endowment for the future care of the cows, and simultaneously support the growth of the INV community.

RESOLVED: The Board authorizes up to \$788K for a 30-year loan to INV for a new apartment building. The interest rate will be 3.5% for the first three years and 4% for the duration of the loan. INV will be required to provide collateral in the equivalent amount of mineral rights acreage.