Proposal for Improvement of Storage Space at Eagle Heights 25 April 2014

Primary Goal: To receive approval for the construction of a new storage shed of appropriated design that will be shared by FH King Students for Sustainable Agriculture and the Greenhouse Learning Community students, and that will replace an existing, but inadequate, temporary storage shelter.

Collaborators: Alan Turnquist, Deena Patterson, Galen Bergquist, Rachel Gerry, Gerald Maly, Lynn Hummel, Rhonda James, Cathie Bruner

To the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee members:

Constructing a New Storage Shed

It would be an immense benefit to the FH King Students for Sustainable Agriculture, as well as to the Greenhouse Learning Community students, to have a separate storage shed for housing their supplies. Housing these supplies would also relieve the burden of an existing temporary storage "structure" and provide a cleaner and more organized working space within the CALS research plots. The shed could be built of similar size and type as the existing CALS shed that is shared between students and faculty. It would be designed, constructed, and adorned in a way to accommodate the best interests of the committee.

Storage and the High Tunnel (temporary storage unit)

FH King students focus on providing experiential and hands-on education in a dynamic work environment, however, the last few years of work have accumulated an excess of equipment and materials that are now using up space outside of the current storage shed. Part of the reason for this lies in the difficulty of transferring the same methods of organization and practice from one student farmer to the next. When students are often engaged in projects, the related components are not always recycled, maintained, or accounted for.

The existing storage shed, which is shared by CALS researchers and FH King, is too small to accommodate for the additional supplies that FH King students have. These additional supplies are being housed in a derelict nylon high tunnel, as well as stacked against the back wall of the existing shed.

After speaking with several representatives of the EHCG, LNP, GLC, and the CALS research plots, I have determined that the current high tunnel is in disrepair and should be removed or reconstituted. Removal has been the more popular choice of action, which I agree with for a number of reasons.

Regardless of whether this high tunnel is removed (as it is currently temporary storage space), there is still a dire need for additional storage space. Keeping in mind the aesthetic value and dynamic function of Eagle Heights land as a part of the greater LN Preserve, I am concerned that having extra supplies/tools in plain view and unprotected from the elements will depreciate the value of both the tools and of our working space, and act as an eye sore to others sharing nearby

space. In addition, supplies that are not housed in a shed are liable to being stolen or damaged.

Funding and Project Details

We want to address all interests expressed within the committee about a new structure being present and would like to provide an opportunity for others to input ideas on a design if a structure is desired. However, our current plan involves building an identical structure to the current existing shed. The GL Community and FHK Students would jointly fund the project. We do not anticipate the funding of a completed structure to exceed $3000. Gerald Maly who works at the Arlington Research station (and who was the primary builder of the existing CALS shed) would assist with the design and construction of the new shed, and students from GLC and FHK would provide labor and materials needed.

Overall dimensions of existing shed:

Length - ~16' 2"
Height (to peak) ~9' 3.5" (to gutter bottom) ~6' 8"
Width - ~8' 2.5"
Doors- 6' 8" high and 3' 1" wide (each of the double doors, for a total width of 6' 2")

Location of existing shed and high tunnel:

The existing CALS shed is located on the southwestern end of the CALS research plots. It is situated on a berm that is elevated from the field plots and that extends to the north where potential sites for a new shed have been considered (see photos). The existing high tunnel is located northeast of the CALS plots and adjacent to the FHK field plots.

Potential locations of new shed:

The photos provided for this proposal indicate two possible building sites north of the existing shed. Another possibility would be to have the new building site exactly in place of the existing high tunnel. The advantage to this possibility is the convenience and proximity to field plots. The disadvantage is that the high tunnel location is in plain view of the EHCG front entrance and it is in the center of a pathway leading up the hill.

Date:
Contour Interval 2'
Scale:

0' 15' 30' 60'

North

Sheet:

Of:


NO
PESTICIDE


NO
PESTICIDE
TO BE STORED
HERE