

**TOWN OF SAN ANSELMO
STAFF REPORT
May 21, 2008**

For the meeting of May 27, 2008

TO: Town Council
FROM: Debra Stutsman, Town Manager
SUBJECT: Robson Seed Garden

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the request to use a garden space at the lower Robson Harrington Park for a local seed saving and community awareness project.

BACKGROUND

Town staff received a proposal from Jesse Jones, who has founded the San Anselmo Land Seed Alliance. The group proposes to use the newly cleared space at Robson for a community operated seed saving garden for the benefit of the San Anselmo community.

The space in question is not currently in use at the park and staff supports the request of the community members to use it.

Mr. Jones will be present at the meeting to present his proposal.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Stutsman
Town Manager

S.A.L.S.A.

“San Anselmo Land Seed Alliance”

Why we are here today

- We all know our planet is currently in the throes of growing energy, environmental, and food crises.
- In the span of three generations, some key skills that kept our communities resilient and secured our children’s prosperity have been lost.
- We believe that most the important of these skills are the practical knowledge of food production and an understanding of the lifecycle of the plants we eat.
- These skills were notably utilized during World War Two when Americans grew Victory Gardens. In under three years, ordinary citizens managed to grow fifty percent of their food.
- In this spirit, and for the purpose of facilitating a more resilient San Anselmo, we propose to reconnect our neighbors, families and children with these vital skills through a hands-on seed production, storage and educational program.

Phase One 1 to 6 Months

- Track 1
 - Land Preparation
 - Delineate the Space
 - Deer Fence
 - Site Survey and Mapping
 - Soil Preparation
 - Weeding
 - Plant Green Mulch
 - Till, Dig and Add Gopher Wire
 - Build Raised Beds (Fallen Envirogroovy Redwood)
 - Add Topsoil

Phase One 1 to 6 Months

- Track 2
 - Infrastructure
 - Design and Install Water Catchment and Reclamation System
 - Design and Install Drip Irrigation System
 - Design and Install Tool Shed/Greenhouse
 - Design Off Grid Photovoltaic System
 - Design and Install Compost System/Worm Bins
 - Complete Six Month Assessment to Determine if Soil is Adequate for Planting
 - Evaluate Water Reclamation Review
 - Invitation to Community Volunteers that Wish to Participate in Process

Phase Two 6 to 12 Months

- Track One Planting
 - Design Intercropping and Plant Pairing Plan
 - Cultivate Seeds in Greenhouse
 - Begin Planting, Growing and Seed Collection
- Track Two Community Participation
 - Community Tutorial and Education Programs
 - After School Education
 - Field Trips
 - Open House
 - Public Service

Phase Three 12 to 24 Months

- The Garden Grows
 - Reseed Garden
 - Rotate Crops
 - General Maintenance
- The Community Strengthens
 - Open Community Assisted Seed Bank
 - Distribute Seeds to Local Gardeners
 - Begin Green Food Storage Education Program

S.A.L.S.A.

WHO ARE WE

S.A.L.S.A. is an international group of environmentally conscious activists who have taken on the identity of our founders home town.

We are:

- A seed steward and master gardener
- A Professor of Wood Working at The College of the Redwoods
- A construction and development executive
- A non profit solar company founder
- An environmental engineer
- A green building contractor
- A holistic healer
- A teacher
- A non profit tax attorney
- A volunteer coordinator
- And many more...

San Anselmo Community Seed Garden 3,500 SF



2008 Tele Atlas
Streaming

Pointer 37°58'27.26" N 122°34'02.48" W Elev 25 m

Google™

Eye alt 94 m