

NHS Greenhouse Stewards Meeting
August 1, 2017
9:00 am – Art Room NHS

In attendance:

Lisa Cote, Bob Hamilton, Rachel Robie, Erik Anderson and Brenda Eaves

The July minutes were accepted and approved.

Greenhouse Manager's Position

The group revised a draft description for the Greenhouse Manager's position. Rachel took careful notes and will make the changes. She will send the revised draft to the school. It will be posted both at the school and throughout the SAU. We will post it in the town as well. We hope to fill this position as soon as possible.

Supplies and Prep for Fall Planting

Wendy, Bob and Brenda met in mid-July to start escarole, chard, kale and broccoli seedlings for fall planting by the 5th and 7th grade.

The seeds for the Square Foot Garden project will be ordered.

We will also make sure there is soil and planting materials – pots, labels, etc...available for any additional class projects that are dreamed up.

Brenda cleared the Square Foot beds in the greenhouse so they are ready for fall planting.

We need a plan to clear out the clutter in and around the greenhouse. There are quite a number of large items that need to be removed. We will contact John to help us. Brenda and Bob will meet at the end of August to clear out the abandoned plants and other "stuff."

Fertilizer

We cannot use chemical fertilizer (not even Miracle-Gro) around children.

Lisa did some research to find alternatives for the Dose-a-tron – it had been purchased to water the petunia and follow the "Proven-Winners" growing schedule. There are several organic alternatives – Neptune's Harvest is one (We have some in the greenhouse. It was purchased from Johnny seed in our first year.) We can check with Agway as well.

Hydroponic Project with 8th graders

Lisa reached out to Aaron Kinney, founder of KinneBotanicals, to see if he could advise us with the set up of this project. With some further details, he would be interested in meeting with us – and we him. We need some guidance in defining the scope of the project so that it is purposeful and manageable.

We thought we'd try to schedule a hydroponics meeting during the 2nd full week of September.

Other

- Lisa sold the last of the Canna Lilies. The moneys from that project were put into a \$50 Agway certificate so supplies for the greenhouse and growing projects may be purchased.
- Lisa also has some small bags of organic growing mix to donate to school growing projects.
- Rachel shared Alice Waters Edible Schoolyard Project. She encouraged us to explore the information there.
- We need to establish a school Garden club – a multi-age group that keeps projects flourishing and develops new ones like the courtyard, herb gardens, dye gardens, butterfly gardens and more. Brenda will volunteer - but would love a partner.