NHS GREENHOUSE STEWARDS MEETING

May 2, 2017 3:00-conference room

IN ATTENDANCE: Lisa Cote, Brenda Eaves, Brad Gregg, Bob Hamilton, Carolyn Kelly, Rachel Robie

Brad received a call from Sensaphone that the greenhouse temperature had risen unexpectedly to 118 degrees. Upon his arrival to the greenhouse to check on the problem, the temperature had risen to 120 degrees. The electricity was turned off and reset back to an opening temperature of 83 degrees and closing temperature of 73 degrees. It is still unclear what triggered the sudden rise in temperature. Brad expressed how fortunate we are to have this system in place and all were in agreement that this situation brings to light the seriousness of losing the plants and the work the students have invested.

The flower sale dates will be May 10, 11&12 from 12:00pm-4:00pm. A pre-sale will be open to faculty and staff on May 4. The final day will be May 13th.

There is a need for a more simple, manageable and lightweight hose (or two) for the greenhouse. It seems that the red hose is often in the way of things and it was suggested that it could be set up outside.

Brad informed the group that the greenhouse was right on budget with its fuel use.

Beets and broccoli are happily growing in the greenhouse. Kale is still located in the classroom.

The fourth grade has pepper plants in the greenhouse and they are doing well. Mark McFarlin would like to leave the plants in the greenhouse.

The six grade had an unsuccessful planting of cabbage and kale.

Brenda and Bob will work on the garden Saturday morning at 9:00 and would welcome extra help.

It was suggested that the stewards revisit purchasing a lawn mower since the grass in between the rows needs to be mowed on a weekly basis to prevent it from growing into the beds.

Brad will speak with John Gamache regarding mowing the garden.

Rachel and Carolyn would like to propose a growing project for the seventh grade students and asked for suggestions on how to approach the team in order to implement a plan. Brad made the suggestion that the students sign up for the project. Brenda suggested growing popcorn- a project that can be carried over into the fall. Lisa suggested growing broom corn.

Canna lilies are progressing nicely. Brad would like to reach out to the garden club with regards to selling them at the flower sale.

There was a discussion about growing hydroponically and how that could be a possible project for a group of students. Brad has done extensive research on hydroponics/ hydroponic towers and has brochures that he will share with the group. There was a discussion as to where a hydroponic tower would be placed if it were to be purchased- Brenda suggested placing it in the library for all to see.

The eighth grade tomato plants are in need of transplanting.

After the flower sale, there will be more room in the greenhouse and this can be accomplished.

There is a need to set up materials prior to planting so the students are organized and ready to go.

Mike Caron worked with the students last year mixing soil- it is hoped that he will be available to assist this year as well.

The NHS greenhouse stewards will reconvene on June 6, 2017