

Tuesday, December 9th Meeting Agenda:

Agenda

1. Update from Laurie on solarium
2. Update from Lisa on Team YES project
3. Update from Joe on Debbie Floershinger (sp?) assisting with the garden club.
4. Discuss research results regarding plants and butterflies.

Minutes from December 9th Meeting:

Attendees: Beth, Joe, Lance, Lisa L., Rachael

Absent: Claire, Colin, Lisa S.

- Laurie will check with Bud on the irrigation system and timers and where they are.
- Lisa S. got an e-mail thread back from Lakes Foundation member and she will be Zoom meeting with Lisa and her class once it is set up. Lisa will let us know and update us next time. Wolf Ridge trip will be in January. The fundraiser will help defray some of the cost.
- We will order salvia, zinnia, cosmos, and petunias since they are good solarium plants. Castile soap works well for aphids. Laurie will get seed starter – 4 quart bag) and Castile soap and investigate a natural bug repellent spray for the plants. Joe will get plants started with his students.
- Joe spoke with Debbie Floershinger (sp?). He got a \$100.00 grant for the garden club. Some of it can be used for EE.
- Braxstead Farms in Pequot or Pine River has a hydroponic system, composting, etc., and could be a good choice for field trips.
- Plants: Look into mushroom logs. Rachel found that Lavender would grow well in a solarium. We will investigate it. Milkweed would be a good option—in that event we would need monarch butterflies. One butterfly provider is sold out and said check back in spring. Butterflies can only be shipped in fall and spring since they will die in transit in the winter—therefore, we will wait until spring to order.
- Lisa will look into mushroom logs. Lance will look into butterflies and what that entails.
- Let Beth know when you are going to use the solarium because there are classes being scheduled and it gets too disruptive. She will put you on the Google calendar.

Minutes from Thursday, Nov. 21st meeting:

Attendees: Joe, Colin, Beth D., Rachael, Laurie, Lisa L. and Lisa S.

Absent: Claire, Jen Miller, and Lance (archery)

- We will clean up the solarium to get it ready for planting.
- The group approved uniform outdoor classroom rules to be shared with all teachers. We discussed types of plants that would work well in the solarium. Marigolds were suggested since they deter pests. Lisa S. will look into that.
- Colin, Joe, and Rachael will research types of plants to buy and we discussed getting butterflies to help pollinate any plants. Colin mentioned not bringing plants from outside into the solarium since there was difficulty in the past with plant pests coming in and infecting other plants.
- Laurie will research costs of getting a mister to see if it would be feasible in order to keep plants watered over weekends and when we are not here. She will also research if a citrus tree would be a good option for the solarium climate.
- Joe will contact Debbie Floershinger (sp?) about being involved in a garden club and/or giving us growing advice.
- Beth is contacting Bud to see about building a cabinet for the solarium to contain supplies.
- Lisa L. is continuing to work on Team YES community action project. Blue Thumb in Baxter is one potential contact to assist with an outdoor butterfly garden. Debbie Floershinger (sp?) could also be contacted to see about assistance.