

School Garden Meeting Minutes- May 9, 2016

The School Garden meeting began at 3:05 p.m. with twelve stakeholders present: Cindy Snyder, Terry Brown, Autumn Gregory, Collin Gregory, Heather Gregory, Isaac Habermehl, Liz Hesse, Rebekah Farrow, Heidi Moss and Jill Kenney. Brady Deuink, Chautauqua County Health Network, also attended the School Garden meeting.

Stakeholders started the planning and implementation phase for the school gardens.

Brady Deuink will contact Pine Valley's School Garden Club when the raised beds are completed.

The garden format was discussed. The location was addressed, and Isaac pointed out, if we placed two raised beds in a centrally located spot, such as near the baseball field, all stakeholder groups could easily access and tend to the gardens. Gardening tools would be housed in the building near the baseball diamond.

A parent from the community, Heather Gregory, asked if the volunteer time could count towards the 70 service learning hours that students need to graduate. A teacher, Rebekah Farrow, stated as long as the service hours aren't obtained for a grade the student would be able to count hours towards graduation requirements. It was suggested that the garden area could be used as an incentive for students to relax and read. The school garden could be special place and safe haven for learning for students, staff, administration and community members.

Liz Hesse, talked about the significance of having a schedule for community members. The schedule would entail watering, weeding and tending the vegetable gardens. With an established schedule and routine for tending to the gardens, invested stakeholders would be able to effectively collaborate and start to feel a sense of pride and responsibility for their school community.

The next school garden meeting will take place following confirmation from Brady Deuink that the raised beds are completed.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:45.