

GREENHOUSE ACTION GROUP MEETING MINUTES

8/29/13

CHS AG CLASSROOM RM 201

12-1:00 PM

- 1. IN ATTENDANCE—KAREN ABOWD, ARNOLD CARBONNE, CAMILLE JONES, HALEY TOUPS RENEE PLAIN, RAY SALIGA, JOANNE SKELLY, MYLAN SCHMIDT, MICHELE LEWIS, AND BEN CONTINE**

- 2. BRENDA WAS UNABLE TO REPORT IN PERSON BUT SENT HER SON MYLAN WITH AN EMAIL THAT STATED TGP HAS \$17,933.92 IN THE CHECKING ACCOUNT AND \$13,593.66 IN THE SAVINGS ACCOUNT.**

- 3. KAREN, CAMILLE AND RENEE REPORTED THEY HAD MET WITH VANESSA AT NOBLE STUDIOS TO REQUEST A MORE REACTIVE WEBSITE CHANGE. VANESSA WOULD DISCUSS WITH JARROD UPON HIS RETURN FROM VACATION TO SEE IF IT COULD BE DONE BY NOBLE OR IF IT WOULD HAVE TO BE DONE ON THE VOLUNTEER TIME OF VANESSA WITH RENEE. RENEE REPORTED THAT THERE IS A ONE TIME FEE OF \$45 FOR A SITE THAT HAS WHAT WE NEED. RAY STATED HE WOULD CHECK OTHER OPTIONS BESIDES WORD PRESS BUT RENEE SAID SHE HAD NO DIFFICULTY USING WORD PRESS TO INPUT MEETING MINUTES AND UPDATES. CAMILLE OFFERED SUGGESTIONS AS TO WHAT SHE WANTED TO SEE ON THE WEBSITE. CAMILLE AND HALEY REQUESTED A WORD PRESS TUTORIAL AND ARNOLD SAID THAT IS AVAILABLE ONLINE. RENEE SAID THAT SERVICE IS AVAILABLE AT THE BRIC. ARNOLD SAID HE WOULD EMAIL THE YOU-TUBE LINK TO RENEE ON HOW TO BUILD A WEBSITE AND WOULD WORK WITH RENEE ON MARKETING TGP. RAY SAID HE WOULD FINE TUNE THE GREENHOUSE EMAIL ADDRESS SO VOLUNTEERS AND CORRESPONDENCE GO TO ONE LOCATION THAT CAMILLE CAN RESPOND TO.**

- 4. THE ADENDA WAS TAKEN OUT OF ORDER AND OTHER ISSUES DISCUSSED FIRST. HALEY TOUPS WAS INTRODUCED AS THE NEW PART TIME AMERICORP VOLUNTEER. SHE PROPOSED THAT TGP GROW MEDICINAL MUSHROOMS FOR \$8/LB TO UPWARDS OF \$52/LB. SHE WORKS FOR ALOHA MEDICINALS AND SHE SAID SHE WOULD PROVIDE MICHELE INFORMATION ON THIS AND THE LEGALITIES INVOLVED. MICHELE SAID SHE WOULD ENGAGE SUE POLAND ON THIS ISSUE AS WELL. ARNOLD CAUTIONED TO BE CAREFUL OF CLAIMS MADE WITH REGARD TO SUCH MUSHROOMS. HE SAID THEY ARE REFERRED TO AS “NUTRI-CEUTICALS” AND SHOULD BE SOLD AS A SUPPLEMENT. HALEY ADDRESSED COST AND SAID PRESSURE COOKERS OR AN AUTOCLAVE IS NEEDED(\$500-\$2000) AND THIS WOULD ALLOW FOR SHITAKE MUSHROOMS TO BE GROWN. KAREN SAID SHE WOULD CHECK WITH SYLVAN, A MUSHROOM SPORE GROWER TO GET AN OPINION. THERE WOULD BE SOIL MATERIAL COSTS BUT THEY COULD BE GROWN UNDER THE TABLES IN THE GREENHOUSE SO SPACE WILL NOT BE COMPROMISED. CAMILLE SAID IT IS A MORE ERGONOMIC USE OF SPACE. HALEY SAID MUSHROOMS WOULD HAVE TO BE HARVESTED BEFORE THEY SPORE. THE MUSHROOM ALSO GENERATE HEAT IN THE GREENHOUSE. HALEY AND CAMILLE SUGGESTED CONSIDERING RABBITS AT THE GREENHOUSE SO YOUTH CAN SEE HOW THE ECOSYSTEM WORKS. THEIR FECES COULD BE USED AS COMPOST. MUSHROOMS GROW ON RABBIT FECES. FOOD FOR THEM IF NOT DONATED IS \$15 FOR 25 LBS AND A RABBIT RUN IS \$30-\$50. THE VERMICULTURE(WORM) PROGRAM ALREADY IN PLACE WORKS WITH THE RABBIT RAISING. JOANNE’S CONCERNS WERE COYOTE ATTRACTION, OVER WINTERING, SEPARATING MALES FROM FEMALES. THAT SAID SHE STATED 4H HAS A GOOD RABBIT LEADER. RAY SAID A MOBILE HUTCH COULD BE MADE AND PUT IN THE HOOP HOUSE OR A RABBIT HOUSE COULD BE BURROWED IN THE GROUND.**

- 5. KAREN SAID THE BOX TRUCK DIGITAL ARTWORK CONTEST WAS UNDERWAY AT WNC AND THAT HANNAH MACINTOSH FROM VITAL SIGNS WAS HANDLING THE RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR THE CONTEST AND CORRESPONDING WITH THE DIGITAL ARTS INSTRUCTOR AT WNC. CAMILLE ASKED IF AN ART CONTEST COULD HAPPEN FOR THE OUTSIDE RAISED PLANTERS AND BEN SAID HE WOULD EXPLORE OPTIONS.**

6. KAREN SAID THE FLOWER BASKET SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM FOR 2014 WOULD KICK OFF SEPT 1. SHE NEEDED VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH LETTERS AND SEEKING SPONSORS AND THE STEPS TO HANDLE THE CAMPAIGN ARE IN WRITING SO ANYONE CAN HELP. CAMILLE AND RENEE SAID THEY WOULD PUT THE PLEA OUT ON FACEBOOK.

7. CHARLIE MANN, THE NEW AG TEACHER WAS INTRODUCED TO CONVEY HIS GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THIS YEARS AG PROGRAM.

ENROLLMENT IS UP TO 160 STUDENTS... DOUBLE LAST YEARS ENROLLMENT. HE STATED THE STUDENTS WOULD BE DEVELOPING PROJECTS TO INCLUDE COMPOSTING, MEDICINAL USE OF LEAVES, ADOPTING GROWING BENCHES/SEED PRODUCTION, WORM CARE, ADOPTING THE HOOP HOUSE FOR A PROJECT, AND FRUIT HARVEST. HE WOULD BE TEACHING INTRO AND ADVANCED CLASSES ON GREENHOUSE MANAGEMENT. HE ALSO WANTS TO DEVELOP A PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CULINARY CLASS FOR COMPOST AND WASTE. CAMILLE BROUGHT UP EXPANDING TGP BUSINESS PLAN TO THINNING OUT THE FLOWERS AND GROWING FOOD IN THE OUTSIDE BEDS. CHARLIE SAID HE IS EMPHASIZING TO HIS CLASSES THAT THEY ARE PART OF THIS COMMUNITY AND THEY NEED TO HELP THE COMMUNITY. CHARLIE SAID HE HAS STUDENTS INTERESTED IN RAISING RABBITS AND CHICKENS. HE SAID BEEKEEPERS WILL RENT LAND TO KEEP BEES. 1 DAY PER MONTH WOULD BE DEDICATED TO WORK ON SAE'S. FOR ALL PROJECTS A BUSINESS AGREEMENT WOULD BE CREATED WITH THE STUDENT. KAREN ASKED IF THE AG STUDENTS WANTED TO BE IN THE NEVADA DAY PARADE AND CHARLIE SAID HE WOULD LET HER KNOW BY END OF SEPTEMBER. KAREN ALSO ASKED IF FFA AND THE AG PROGRAM WOULD BE MORE ACTIVE IN CO-PROMOTION OF TGP FUNDRAISING EVENTS. CHARLIE SAID THEY MOST DEFINITELY WOULD.

8. KAREN DISCUSSED THE UPCOMING CELEBRITY CHEF HARVEST DINNER. SOUTHERN WINE AND SPIRITS WAS DONATING THE WINE BUT SHE WAS SEEKING A \$6700 SPONSORSHIP LIKE LAST YEAR. ABOWD AND ROSE FINANCIAL WAS NOT SURE THEY COULD DO IT THIS YEAR.

ARNOLD AND RENEE WOULD PROMOTE THE EVENT. POSTERS AND HANDBILLS WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR THE LAST FARMERS MARKET. RENEE SAID SHE COULD GET THE PRINTING DONE FOR 50 PERCENT OFF(750 HANDBILLS AND 50 POSTERS). KAREN SAID SHE WOULD HAVE THE RESTAURANT GENERAL MANAGER CREATE THE GRAPHICS AND SEND THEM TO RENEE. CAMILLE WOULD DEVELOP A POWER POINT FOR THE EVENT TO INFORM GUESTS ABOUT TGP AND MICHELE SAID SHE WOULD CHECK INTO A SCREEN AND PROJECTOR. KAREN SAID SHE WOULD NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE DOOR AND MICHELE SAID THE FFA KIDS COULD HANDLE THAT ASPECT. THE AG CLASS WITH CAMILLE WOULD DO THE FLOWERS FOR THE TABLES. KAREN WOULD NEED VOLUNTEERS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION, FLIERS, EQUIPMENT AND TABLE SETUP. A SIGN UP SHEET WOULD BE AT THE NEXT MEETING. THE COST WOULD BE \$200/PERSON AND SEATING IS LIMITED TO 90.

9. CAMILLE GAVE THE GREENHOUSE MANAGER UPDATE. SHE SAID FALL AND WINTER CROPS WERE PLANTED. TGP AND FRUIT BARON/HEALTHY TREES FOR A FRUIT HARVEST. 10#'S OF PLUMS WENT TO FISH. PEACHES AND PEARS WOULD BE THE NEXT TO BE HARVESTED AND DONATED. WOOD CHIPS WERE NEEDED TO BUILD THE SOIL. PLANNING HAD BEGUN FOR WORKSHOPS. CAMILLE AND JULIA BROWN (AN AG STUDENT) WERE COLLABORATING ON AN AGRO-TOURISM EVENT AT THE END OF THE FARMER'S MARKET SEASON

WHICH WOULD BE A HARVEST PARTY. SPECIAL WILDFLOWER SEEDS WOULD BE FOR SALE; FOLKS COULD HARVEST THEIR OWN FLOWER BOUQUET. THIS WOULD BE THE FIRST WEEKEND OF OCTOBER IN THE LATE AFTERNOON. ART CLASS ART WOULD BE ON DISPLAY IN THE GARDENS AND A BAND WOULD DONATE THEIR MUSICAL TALENTS.

PERMACULTURE/PERENNIAL FOOD FOREST WAS TO BE STARTED ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE GREENHOUSE AND A WORKSHOP WOULD BE PART OF THIS PROJECT. THERE WOULD BE AN ELF GARDEN WORKSHOP THIS WINTER AS A SEQUEL TO THE FAIRY GARDEN WORKSHOP OF THIS SUMMER. RAY CONTINUED THE UPDATE BY SAYING THAT THERE WAS A PROBLEM WITH ONE OF THE AMERICORP STUDENTS WHO HAD BEEN

WARNED SEVERAL TIMES AND WRITTEN UP FOR NOT SHOWING UP. RAY WORKED WITH AMERICORP AND IT WAS AGREED THAT THE STUDENT HAD BEEN GIVEN EVERY OPPORTUNITY BUT HIS EMPLOYMENT MUST BE TERMINATED. AMERICORP VOLUNTEER HALEY TOUPS WOULD BE WITH TGP THROUGH FEBRUARY AND RAY WOULD SUBMIT HER PAPERWORK. THE OUTSIDE SHELVES AND LATH HOUSE WERE BUILT. DOORS WERE TO BE FIXED BY MARK LOPICCOLO TOMORROW AT THE GREENHOUSE. THE LAST OF THE IRRIGATION WAS DONE AND RAY WAS GETTING 2.5 YRS OF FILES ORGANIZED. RAY WAS FINISHING THE TRELISING IN THE GREENHOUSE AND WORKING WITH CAMILLE ON THE DATABASE TRAINING WEEKLY.

10. THE NEXT ACTION GROUP MEETING DATE WAS SET FOR THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 26 @ NOON AT CHS RM 201.

11. THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 1:00 PM.