

Garden Committee Minutes Jan 13, 2015

Attending: Lynn Hartog, Sara Bevans, Duane Heiden, Marjorie Shreve

We went over the letter for Food Pantry Participants and decided to start using it.

We discussed crop rotation. Most of our crops are in the fruit family so we will move where we plant them but it will not be a true rotation. Since manure was put on the space in the fall and some of the ground was newly tilled this last fall, it should do fine. We drew a tentative map. The west side will be corn (where the potatoes were last year). Next to them will be potatoes Kennebec reds (where the tomatoes were last year). Next to them will be tomatoes and peppers (where the lettuce and beets were last year). We will use the East side for zucchini, yellow squash, spaghetti squash and acorn squash—but these need to be planted earlier this year. Part of the east side will also be for beets, lettuce and spinach and onions.

We will build an arch for pole string beans at the west end where the compost bins are and also a cucumber arch (maybe smaller). Under these we plan to plant lettuce, radishes and maybe some cilantro (things that like it cool and tolerate some shade).

Sara volunteered to get the sweet corn again this year. We will plan to buy tomato plants from the FFA to support them and possibly also the pepper plants (or get pepper plants from Walmart—Sara got good ones there last year). We will get new herb plants also. Basil does well from seed. We will not plant pumpkins this year. We decided to plant onion sets this year (I think). We may start some at the parsonage but not till February or March—maybe just for fun.

Duane will help us figure out how to put up the mail box so that we can keep the notebook of who works in the garden and what we do. Last year the notebook in the white plastic can proved too difficult to get to—although we did record some pertinent information in it—plan is when we work put in a few notes and the date to help with the record keeping.

We will not do a raised bed this year as we have plenty of ground and haven't the need.

Marjorie will give the Food Pantry letter to Dawn and Scott to have people who use the Food Pantry fill it out.

Our next meeting will be Monday, March 2 and 6 pm. Potatoes will be planted close to Good Friday (April 3, this year).