OSEAN meeting notes November 10, 2020

7:00pm

Zoom meeting format due to Covid-19 Pandemic

*Ottawa South Eco Action Network is a group of volunteer environmental activists working in*

*Ottawa South. Our aim is to support people in our area who are taking action in motivating and*

*enabling others to become low waste households, protecting green spaces and wildlife,*

*combating climate change, and encouraging the government to pass more sustainable*

*legislation. We believe in thinking globally and acting locally.*

In attendance: Heather, Erin, David, Marianne, Aija (regrets: Kat and Kari-Anne)

Guests: Karen and Kelly from Eco West Enders

1. November 14th Virtual Meet and Greet at 7 pm

Currently 3 people have RSVP’d by emailing OSEAN.info@gmail.com

a) Maybe we want to break out sessions if we get a lot of people?

b) Erin will “Host”

c) We will use Zoom this time as people might be more familiar with it vs Google

Meet.

d) What do we want to come out of this meet and greet?

i) Have people identify if they wish to be called upon to volunteer, or write

an article, or attend our monthly meetings, if they want to take a more

active role like in community gardens.

2. City Budget - Letter or Email?

a) Standing Committees start meeting the week of Nov 16th to discuss the budget, although most are the week following. Kat did participate in budget consult with Riley. Did we want to do

anything else?

b) Alternative Budget: Should we email Jean Cloutier, Riley and Diane Deans that

OSEAN endorses the Alternative Budget and we encourage them to read it? Did

we want to pick out any particular highlights?

i) Dave: Priorities should come first not AFTER the budget is decided.

ii) Budget consultations need to happen earlier.

iii) “Ottawa Green” - Consultations (off the main page) - TAB on the main

page of city of Ottawa (not everyone knows what the Energy Evolution is).

iv) Mention that we endorse the Alternative Budget

**Action item:** **Heather, with support from everyone, will draft a letter with OSEAN's budget askes to Councillors Deans, Cloutier and Brockington by Nov 20th.**

3. Recap of Pumpkins for Pigs

a) We ending up connecting with the Wellington Business Association and Anita

Grace. Likely will coordinate again next year. Estimate that 700 pumpkins were

“rescued”. Our Facebook posts were shared almost 100 times with almost 11000

people reached. Lots of positive feedback to the RPCA… next time need to

promote OSEAN a bit more. We were featured in Capital Current:

https://capitalcurrent.ca/halloween-pumpkin-problem-doorstep-landfill/

b) Next year: Found a few more farms and rescues for next year. May try to donate

uncarved pumpkins to food centres (the Ottawa mission). Can’t be my driveway

lol.

i) Volunteer collection points need to show the addresses.

ii) People want to see the pigs. Can we show them a Webcam (pigcam) of

the pigs. Ask for a video.

iii) Kelly has a contact for Agricultural Museum.

**Action Item: Marianne will follow up with Kelly.**

4. Welcome Eco West Enders

a) Local community group in Stittsville started in 2019

i) Small community initiatives

(1) Sanitary napkin DIY

(2) Collect books

(3) Sewing your own reusable bags

(4) Speakers series

(a) Members were keen to learn more but didn’t have the

experts. Brainstorming about what we wanted to learn

about.

- Solar Panels (real cost, how do you set it up locally).

- Hobby Farm

- Vermiculture

- Pollinator Gardens

Library was the location for their speakers - they really

helped with the legwork, and they have their own audience

ii) In early 2020, decided to focus on specific initiatives:

(1) Consume less and green their homes (outdoor vegetable gardens,

less grass, etc)

iii) Pandemic has slowed them down a lot, many people needed to step

away. Looking to collaborate: eg pumpkins for pigs

iv) Partnering with Earth Hub: Earth Bin program to Stittsville

v) Facebook group has about 400 members

5. Email etiquette and Google docs

a) Working with Kat and Erin to find a way to better capture and share our

messages/articles and plans to minimize information overwhelm and maximize

retention.

i) Kelly is happy to collaborate in website building, or building a solution for

“housing” this information.

ii) Heather suggested: She could add a calendar to the website about

events

iii) Dave would like to find ways to share the OSEAN research finds more

broadly (on Facebook?)

6. Next steps, Next projects, Local Updates

a) Heat Pumps - Dave was on an Energy Evolution working group for buildings and

energy storage.

i) The key point is that Ottawa needs to install 0.5 million heat pumps to get

to net zero emissions.

ii) There are a few different types of heat pumps including an air-

source heat pump (often simplest for existing buildings). And there

are ground source heat pumps. These are more expensive and

are more suitable for new developments.

iii) How do we change behaviour to make people WANT to install a

heat pump. How do we make this “sexy”?

b) Erin suggested making videos to try to “pump” up the idea of green initiatives.

i) Marianne suggested talking to the Envirocrew of Old Ottawa

South as they are already doing some neighbourhood-based videos and

may want to work together.

**Action Item: Erin will start to identify friends and neighbours (like Heather) who have a heat pumps and then record video clips of them.**

7. This year’s Ecology Ottawa Eco Gala (Nov 28) will be held virtually. We can encourage

people to attend and participate in the silent auction, but we as “OSEAN” will not

be attending.

8. Trees for Goats - Marianne is currently trying to partner with the Riverside Park

Community Association (RPCA) to see if we want to collect Christmas trees for

goats. RPCA has liability insurance, which may allow us to collect trees on city

park property. May try to collect Christmas trees around one of the local rinks to

serve a dual purpose of wind break and goat food. Stay tuned!