# OSEAN Meeting - Jan 19th 2022

## Attendance

* Marianne
* Heather
* Bryony
* Teresa
* Erin
* Catherine - Saw the post for this meeting on Facebook (Elwood)
* Ron - From Riverview Park; found the meeting through a friend at Friends of Riverview Park Green Spaces
* Ajia

## Agenda

**I.Trees! (Rescuing and handing out seedlings).

Heather** - Saw article about someone rehoming trees to somewhere they will grow better. Some people wouldn’t know for sure what tree it is, which could be a problem. Heather is thinking we could collect some redbud pods from a redbud tree and then provide them to people; there is a website that shows the location of trees at the Experimental Farm where we could source tree seeds.

<http://tree-location-guide.friendsofthefarm.ca/treeloccom.htm>

**Erin** - Someone she knows has a lot of trees on their property who is willing to provide seeds/saplings.

**Marianne** - Perhaps finding a tree expert to identify trees.

**Erin** - If the map could be shared in the group, perhaps people who are going for walks could look out for these trees. We could perhaps add trees onto the pollinator program and see if anyone is interested in the tree seeds.

**Bryony** - We need to make sure people know how to look after the trees as it may be pointless to give away trees if people don’t know how to maintain them. We could attach something to the trees, such as “plant something to encourage your little ones to go outside after the colder months’ etc.

**Catherine** - Ecology Ottawa has a lot of information, perhaps this could be something we could collaborate on. Link to Ecology Ottawa's tree giveaway campaign - it includes a list of species offered, and tree care instructions. “Interested in co-hosting a Tree Giveaway for your community? Email our Tree Team at TreeOttawa@EcologyOttawa.ca for more information.”

<https://www.ecologyottawa.ca/tree_giveaway_events>

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CVVuwAsLkHO/>

**Decision**: Let’s find out when Ecology Ottawa does it’s tree giveaway and will it line up with Hunt Club’s get growing? (Or another event we can combine with EO’s tree giveaway). Let’s also find someone (possibly from EO) about this idea of rehoming trees.

 **II. Update on Pollinator Patches including Bylaws and Front Yard Gardening presentation (would really love to find someone from bylaw even “unofficially”**

**Marianne** - We had a grant accepted for our Pollinator Program to encourage people to create a pollinator garden in their yards, where we’ll be providing plants from Naturaid (Hugh), and hosting a webinar with Berit Erickson who will explain how to prepare your area. We wanted to talk to By-law to host a By-law 101 session, however we haven’t had much luck, so we are hoping to get some info unofficially. Education seems to be the main issue for people when wanting to create pollinator gardens, and so we could focus on educating residents to encourage this. Possibly working with a few groups to reach a much broader audience (Eco West Enders is interested).

### III. **OSEAN Website** - Costs

**Heather** - The price seems to have doubled from $159 to around $381 for 3 years; the domain name cost is an additional $15 every year. Do we really need a website? Could we find something cheaper? The money is due March 3, 2022.

Heather would also like to step down from website design/management. OSEAN would like to thank Heather for getting a website off the ground and keeping it active for 3 years!!

The only expertise Erin has is through Google websites. Erin would also be willing to help with money for a year if we can’t figure something out.

ACTION: Marianne will talk to some members (K&JD) who work in technology to see if they have any ideas on less expensive ways to host. Let’s make a post to see if anyone would like to be part of our website design team.

### III. **Update on Boulevard** Bylaw reform

**Marianne** - For Our Kids Ottawa/Gatineau is leading this, they met with Rawlson King and he is supportive of changing the bylaw They will talk with city staff and then the campaign will launch. It will be called ‘Let It Grow’, and once it’s launched groups can then put their name on the campaign. We won't be focusing on vegetable gardens in the boulevard at this point.

**Teresa** - Winnipeg has good photos of boulevards.

### IV. **Update about our SEO Intern** and looking ahead

**Marianne** - Bryony is with us till June 24th. She could get involved with the website stuff and the tree giveaway (Heather). Maybe something involved with Earthub (Erin) - Would be great to coordinate drop off locations at Community Centres. Just FYI - Earthub requires volunteers to deliver the items to them - so would just need to coordinate driving volunteers (Marianne)

**Erin** - Do people collect them at home? [Yes] - There is a pick up spot in Alta Vista as well as at the Riverside United Church and near Springland/Mooney’s Bay. (Marianne)

### V. **City of Ottawa: High Performance Development Standard** - New Civic Hospital plans don’t have to meet the standard

**Heather** - Email was sent around regarding this. Heather attended a Zoom meeting about the City's High Performance Development Standard, where she hoped energy efficiency standards would come in for all buildings in Ottawa, however, only larger buildings and new residential developments must meet requirements. New residential developments (Plan of Subdivisions) have to submit an energy plan starting in the summer of 2022 (or 2023?). Tier 1 energy efficiency and other sustainability measures for large buildings come into effect summer 2023; Tier 2 measures are voluntary; they will never be required as part of the standard. Some of the Tier 2 measures will be part of the new zoning By-laws but will not come into effect until 2024 or later.

**Marianne** - Survey will be presented in February perhaps. What can we do about this?

**Heather** - Someone at the Zoom meeting asked, "is this set in stone?", and they said no (even after years of speaking to building groups and energy experts). We could write to them more that this is taking too long, and that we should be consulted more. They stated Covid was the reason they couldn’t have consultations with the public (but they could with building groups, etc.).

**ACTION:** Bryony and Heather can work on this letter to either the public or to councillors.

### VI**. Idea: Invasive species** (Maybe in partnership with other groups?)

###  A. Apply for this grant (deadline Feb 4th) to get $1000 for community based training on invasives and how to remove them and ideally choose a park to put those skills in practise and help tackle invasives. (Was thinking riverside park: marble park (garlic mustard especially) or Ernie Calcutt (buckthorn especially) or Hog’s Back (dog-strangling vine) since I think we would have the community association support but could work with other groups). May be premature since city is slow on working with volunteers but with Cloutier’s recent motion maybe timing will be perfect! Or we try to work with NCC!<https://www.invasivespeciescentre.ca/isc-microgrants/?fbclid=IwAR075MkBRtsa4sEyxWdmAmvbyrSUhV2GX6ZHvZ3NBRuFwp-P8xUEVMWTpjg>

###  B. Host a training/presentation on Ldd moths (Gypsy moths)

**Marianne** - Could we apply for a grant (perhaps along with other community associations) to educate people on HOW to get rid of invasive plants and species. John Cloutier is trying to get community associations the power to get rid of invasive species.

**Ron** - It’s painful to get permission to get rid of invasive plants.

**Heather** - People need to be educated about their own invasive plants.

**Erin** - Has no issue talking about this if she was trained beforehand.

**Heather** - Could we talk about this at other community association talks?

**ACTION** - Let's apply, see and then make some more concrete plants. We can all think of some ideas to add everything to $1,000, could we perhaps get training from someone. Ideas to be sent to Marianne and/or Bryony.

### VII. **Heat pumps** - Ontario Clean Air Alliance is promoting provincial support for installing heat pumps in electrically heated homes. Do we want to lend our voice more officially?<https://www.cleanairalliance.org/heat-pumps-are-what-our-climate-needs-now/>

**Marianne** - Heat pumps are a great way to get off fossil fuels, however there are a lot of Northern communities including Indigenious communities that use baseboard heating which is really expensive. So Ontario Clean Air Alliance is asking the provincial government to be able to provide a zero-interest grant to these communities. Do we want to do anything about this other than just sharing and signing it? We could write our own letter and send to CAFES, community associations and the provincial government.

**Erin** - Do these communities have the understanding of using heat pumps?

**Marianne** - Not sure if the problem is education - Heat pumps are around $8,000-$15,000 so the upfront cost is often the barrier.

**Erin** - Could we send this to the federal government too?

**Aija** - We could write this letter explaining how important this move could be, and then let Indigenous groups know that we are doing this.

**ACTION** - Bryony and Aija can work on this letter.

### New business:

###  Alta Vista CA has asked OSEAN to present on Feb 1-2 - would anyone like to speak or Byrony (our superstar intern) can present

**ACTION:** Bryony will present for 30-45 mins- Will talk about Pumpkins for Pigs (Pumpkins for the Planet) and our Pollinator Patch Program and introduce the By-Law campaign (Ron mentioned it would be of interest)

**Erin** - Other OSEAN members could join to show numbers.

### II NCENN (National Capital Environmental Nonprofit Network) meets on Jan 28th with a round table. I’ve suggested Bryony attend and update and also learn what other groups are doing

**ACTION**- Bryony will present, 10-15 minutes, talk about pumpkins (to find other organisations to get on board) and then pollinators.

### III Council Watch

**Heather** - Council Watch will track the councillors votes on issues that are relevant to the environment. This will demonstrate a voting pattern for each councillor. Council Watch watches some committee meetings and they will also start taking video clips (of people giving presentations, etc) and will post them on the Ecology Ottawa, Council Watch website.

### Next Meeting

February 23rd 6pm