OSEAN Meeting Minutes

Date: October 28th, 2019

Present: Heather, Dave, Aiya, Marianne, Erin

Members: Linda has stepped away from the group. Has commented that she wants to concentrate on work with trees and was overwhelmed by amount of emails. Group discussed email situation. Decided to be left as is for the moment.

New members: Catherine is perhaps interested and will try to make next meeting.

Federal elections 2019: Discussion about recent election. Was noted that proportional representation would have led to many more seats for Green and NDP. We will have a link to proportional teachings/groups on website/facebook. Erin will send info to OSEAN google group. Erin wrote congratulatory email to David McGuinty and will share with OSEAN to post.

Fridays for the Future: We had a great turnout for the Climate strike and were interviewed twice!

Writing for HCCA newsletter: Aiya to finish Linda’s article and will send it off to Hunt Club Riverside, and will forward to Heather to send to Riverview. Aiya to follow up with Julie to see if she’d like to contribute more regularly.

Letter to editor: Aiya’s letter published in the Ottawa Citizen (was her second time!) and we will post to sites.

Tree planting: Dave to approach Riley about how and where we can plant trees in our community. Hidden Harvest is looking for leaders to organize harvesting events in our neighbourhood and Marianne has applied to be a leader. We will try to merge the two ideas together, perhaps with Brookfield courtyard as starting point.

Budget Meeting Ottawa South October 22: Dave was at meeting. Commented that Mayor was there. The environment came up many times. There was no big commitment besides phase II and III of LRT. Electric buses and Climate Emergency not discussed.

City issues:

Shawn Menard wrote in Glebe Report that the city’s new Official Plan will have to look through a sustainability lens. There is also a new Councillors Sponsors group tasked with doing a cost/benefit analysis with regards to climate change initiatives. More news to come in December’s paper.

Greenspace Alliance is coming together to make their own People’s Official Plan for the city. This group is offering a workshop on November 15th-16th to create plan and will present to city. Registration can be found here:

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/climate-solutions-and-ottawas-official-plan-nov-15-and-16-registration-74353638735

Fundraising: Marianne went to National Capital Environmental Non-profit Network workshop to learn about how to fund raise. OSEAN to make videos for Giving Tuesday that will suggest donating to support David Suzuki/students suing government (Aiya and daughter) and Hidden Harvest (Erin and Marianne). Marianne is going to try to go to next NCENN event. Marianne talked about Eco Talent network. They will pair you with an expert, provide funding, as well as lend you students to help with your event. Heather mentioned Just Food has money for grants for growing projects. Marianne mentioned there is a group to promote Eco co-ops. She will get name and Erin will send to school co-op teacher. Milkweed seeds have not sold as yet, though are still available and will be set out at tables in future and maybe as a Christmas campaign.

Eco gala:

On Wednesday, November 20th at Lansdowne. Tickets $60 for students and seniors, $80 general admission with additional $5 processing fee. We are planning to attend to support and celebrate, and will take bus to event.

Good news stories: Website and Facebook doing great! Heather was on CBC for a de-paving event. Erin’s Eco group is growing and they are becoming a Certified Wildlife Habitat. Marianne’s diaper program is growing as well.

Halloween: Marianne looking at posting about off-setting and/or buying more sustainable candy and/or writing to MP’s. Also fun recipes to eat leftover pumpkins.

Marianne would like to float a local Pumpkin walk/collection. Marianne has connected some farmers to some pumpkin collecting sites. OSEAN is looking into doing this with Jolly Jam Heritage Farm. Marianne to give updates. Frugal Farm collects Christmas trees for their goats and is looking at connecting farmers with grocery stores to collect their food waste. OSEAN to look further into supporting these endeavours.

Next meeting: Erin’s place Nov. 25th at 7pm