

## **Transition Meaford Meeting**

June 11<sup>th</sup>, 7pm, 2014

Ecolnhabit

**In Attendance:** Rock Palmer, Mary Bryant, Liz Buckton, Jaden Calvert, Rick Elzby, Cathy Miller and Steve Griffiths

**Regrets:** Lindy Iversen, Ivan Chan, JoAnn McCall and Chuck Mitchell

### **Project Updates**

#### **Grain Bin Project (Chuck)**

- Chuck has, to date, had a variety of interest but not enough in one geographic area to warrant a project. Three tons is generally the minimum delivery and you need to cycle through it in 6-8 weeks so that there are no moulding issues. He still thinks there is potential and will pick up again on it next fall when things slow down for him.

#### **Film Series (Lindy)**

Based on their availability & cost (to be confirmed by Meaford Hall), the 4 documentaries selected for the winter 2014-15 series are as follows:

Nov. 2014 RiverBlue

Mark Angelo, a passionate storyteller and river advocate, has possibly paddled more rivers in his lifetime than anyone else on this planet. Having paddled globally for over 40 years, he has sadly watched the decline of the rivers he loves. Journeying through some of the most pristine to most devastated rivers, Mark discovers and unveils the source of much destruction of these waters; Jeans manufacturing.

Jan. 2015 Bringing It Home

A father's search to find the healthiest building materials leads him to the completion of the nation's first hemp house. Hemp with lime is a non-toxic, energy efficient, mildew, fire and pest resistant building material. The drawback — although research is legal in some states, hemp remains off-limits to almost all U.S. farmers. Industrial hemp is a non-psychoactive plant, grown in 31 other countries that makes 1,000's of sustainable products and offers solutions for global warming, nutrition, poverty and deforestation. Here in the U.S., hemp could be a money-making crop for farmers and create jobs. But why can't we grow it here? BRINGING IT HOME tells the story of hemp: past, present and future and a global industry that includes textiles, building materials, food products, bio-plastics, auto parts and more

Feb. 2015 Just Eat It

A 75-minute documentary film about food waste and food rescue by Peg Leg Films in partnership with British Columbia's Knowledge Network. The film will be launching at festivals in April, 2014.

Mar. 2015 Seeds of Permaculture

An interactive film about permaculture in the tropics, with education and inspiration as the main threads running through this hour-and-a-half-documentary.

## **Earth Week (Lindy)**

Earth week will move forward!

## **B & B Habitat (Rick)**

- Article in the Owen Sound Sun times
  - Farmers want to get together to look at alternative pollinators and ways to encourage them on properties.

## **Plastic Film Recycling Project (Steve)**

- There will be a instructional video made on June 30<sup>th</sup>
- Plastic will be accepted starting July 1<sup>st</sup>
- Laura Golmintz, the Waste Management Student, will be promoting this project and will be attending the Meaford Farmers' Market periodically throughout the Summer and will share information, in addition to the Plastic Film Campaign, about the Blue "W", the Clean Up and Green Up Campaign. She will also be helping kids learn how to create a skipping rope out of plastic bags at the Meaford Farmers' Market.

## **Meaford Community Gardens (Jaden and Mary)**

- The Meaford Community Gardens 3rd Annual Plant Sale and the BVCS Community Garden Plant Sale were both a success! Over \$350 was raised through both sales.
- Meaford Community Gardens is evolving
  - The garden space at The Village Green Garden at Victoria Village has nearly doubled! Lots of new interest and many kids are involved.
  - A new plot was created at the GBSS Community Garden to meet the increasing demand for plots
  - At least one youth will be involved with helping with the promotion and advocacy of Meaford Community Gardens for the Summer
  - Mary is in the process of creating an edible garden at the United Church
  - Mary, Lindy and Jaden met to develop the Meaford Community Gardens 'Guiding Principles'
- There are plans still for a Meaford Community Gardens Visioning Meeting to develop a 5-year plan
- 'Healthy Living' Cooking Class
  - Mary, Jaden and Diana will be meeting with Amber Knott tomorrow to discuss a 'Healthy Living' cooking class
  - Will take-place at the Meaford & St. Vincent Community Centre
  - Partnership between the Golden Town Outreach and the Municipality of Meaford
  - Will hopefully be launched in August and running until December

## **Community Juice Press (Jaden)**

- There will be a Community Juice Press meeting tomorrow, June 12th, from 4-6pm at the Meaford Public Library
- Survey has been distributed to a selected group and would like to distribute survey to a larger group
  - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1PNyewZWAPEzIORJI34HcFQi32CARork9Ct-9Xv8AmFs/viewform>

- Possibility of the Community Juice Press being part of and co-located in a 'Local Food Hub' in Meaford - exploring all possibilities

### **Energy Mini-Grid Pilot (Rock)**

1. Met with Doris Bilitz at Victoria Village and working toward replacing the baseboard heaters with units that use energy in off-peak times in order to reduce their energy costs
2. Met with owners of both grocery stores in Meaford. No real interest from the one, however, Bill liked the idea of using solar energy but is not in a position to do anything until he decides if he is going to keep the franchise for another term with Loblaws
3. Met with Lynda Stevens and she is a strong supporter of the idea of using renewable solar energy for town buildings and to enhance the harbour project
4. Had a conversation with Denyse Morrissey (CAO) and she indicated the Town is working toward its obligation with the Green Energy Act and also with LAS on some energy reduction plans
5. Going forward, I think it is important to meet with as many people in the Town office as possible to really understand what the potential is for coming onside with renewable energy for their new buildings, such as the new library, etc.

### **Bridge to Local Government (Liz)**

- Energy Consumption Audit
  - Baseline was supposed to be completed last June
  - Baseline and long-term energy management plan to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014
    - Drafted by November so that new council could adopt
  - Important so that the Municipality of Meaford can meaningfully reduce or stabilize its energy consumption
- Met with space-needs consultant re Meaford Public Library
  - Wanting to understand municipal demand for library services
  - Evaluating what can be accommodated in the existing building and compare/contrasting with the hypothetical new library
  - Community hubs
  - Lack of business spaces during office hours
- Attended training session for 1,000 Community Conversations
  - Goal: 1,000 conversations about community
  - June, July, August – 6-8 conversations in Meaford
  - Embracing vulnerable populations is a focus

### **New Sparks**

- Food Preservation work-bees (Cathy)
  - Collaboration with church groups?
  - Meaford & St. Vincent Community Centre?

### **Next meeting**

July 9th, 2014, at Ecolnhabit