



North Coast Co-op
Earth Action Committee (EAC) Minutes
September 20, 2016 – Ten Pin Building Mezzanine, Arcata

EAC Members present:

Peggy Leviton (board), Dave Feral (board), Collin Fiske (board), Roger, Jolie Harvey (staff), Brenda Harper, Margaret Gainer (Zero Waste Humboldt) and Ellie Christensen (staff notetaker)

At 5:35pm Dave welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order, and established the agenda.

Agenda Review: No changes

Consensus reached to approve the August 16, 2016 minutes.

Board Meeting follow-up: No recommendations from the EAC to the BOD from the last meeting

AMRTS Review. Tabled to Oct. 18 EAC meeting

Stop Sign Strategy Ideas. Discussion included:

We have been seeking a stop sign at 8th & I for a long time and had been told that there needed to be a minimum traffic flow. Further investigation found that the minimum is a guideline and not a standard. Colin had sent the summary of his research on the policy to the EAC committee as requested at the last meeting, which was forwarded to the City of Arcata (Doby Class) and a response was received:

- The City of Arcata stated that they have a standard city warrant policy from days past regarding the evaluation of stop signs which they would like to modify
- They are seeking approval from the council to modify their standards to include engineering judgement, police department and citizen input

Colin will follow up with a letter to Doby Class seeking a sense of when this policy will change.

Transportation funds. No discussion

Zero Waste Humboldt Update. Discussion included:

- Nov. 15th is Zero Waste Day and ZWH is working on a social media campaign. (Group photo taken)
- Zero Waste Incorporated in 2014. Waste prevention is a huge component of what they do with public education, with policy development and advocacy and in technical assistance and training.
- 2015 they did an in-depth and broad analysis of the packaging in the prepared foods sections of the Co-op's Arcata store location.
- Seeking grant funds for numerous projects including a web-based database for how to purchase appropriate recyclable packaging, water filtration and refill systems for schools and public works, and larger water container carts for county wide events.
- The City of Arcata will be unveiling their Zero Waste Action Plan and there may be a grand announcement that the Board of Directors and Earth Action Committee might want to attend.

How can we (North Coast Co-op) support Zero Waste Humboldt?

- A letter of support
- Encourage ZWH to apply for CCF grant

- In-kind grant collaborations

As a follow up to this conversation it would be helpful if ZWH could bring a “wish list” of projects that the EAC can share with the Board and the board can try to prioritize how to get support for those things.

Sustainability Plan Project – Juliet Bohn and Sustainability Food Trade Association Program are proposals that have not been responded to by the board or committees:

- The Co-op has received a proposal (Juliet Bohn) for In-Store Organic Waste Management strategy and that might help as we move forward with the deli remodel.
- We recently renewed our membership with the Sustainable Food Trade Association and it looks like it is similar to the NCG co-efficient program with a broader scope.
- US Zero Waste Council--The Co-op has two employees attending a seminar on Monday.

One of the questions that came up about the deli remodel was waste and it appears like these proposals could help with the ways of handling and reducing the waste. How do we ensure that the staff has the tools to moving forward to follow through with the discussion of the expansion not creating more waste without telling them what to do?

- Additional discussion included thoughts about short and long term training of and guidelines for waste procedures for staff
- The development of a Chief Sustainability Officer
- Develop a Zero Waste Policy

Peggy will follow up with an email to the General Manager reminding her of these proposals and their potential helpfulness in the remodel discussion

The EAC recommends that staff incorporate zero waste practices and principles into employee training and handbook, a line item in the job description, orientation, Worker Bulletin – Zero Waste Minute

Prioritize outstanding items from charter and set agenda. Discussion included:

- Transportation Funds
- AMRTS
- Develop an Institutional Zero Waste Policy
- Durable Goods Bank for transporting purchased stuff within the store- Could we use our own CCF funds/ round up campaign
- Solar Hot Water Consulting discussion with guest speaker John Davis
 - **Request that staff invite Duncan and maintenance staff**

Review: Next meeting will be October 18 at 5:30pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:09pm

Minutes by Ellie Christensen

Committee Recommendations: The EAC recommends that staff incorporate zero waste practices and principles into employee training and handbook, a line item in the job description, orientation, Worker Bulletin – Zero Waste Minute