



**North Coast Co-op
Earth Action Committee (EAC) Minutes
April 12, 2017– Ten Pin Building Mezzanine, Arcata**

EAC Members present: Leah Stamper, Mary Ella Anderson, Cheri Strong, Colin Fiske

Member-Employees present: Melanie Bettenhausen and Nicole Chase

Members present: Laura Jones

At 6:48 pm the meeting is called to order by committee chair Leah

Agenda Review: Discussion included: Approval of the minutes by consensus with Colin abstaining

Consensus reached to approve the March 23, 2017 minutes.

City of Arcata Zero Waste Action Plan Draft:

- Committee reviewed the draft action plan- not all people present has had a chance to read the whole document
- Zero Waste Humboldt developed the plan
- General consensus that it is a good plan
- Committee agrees that it is progressive for the city to come up with such a comprehensive plan
- ZWH asked for our input
- How can the Co-op contribute/collaborate? Maybe look at waste streams, composting
- No mention of parking lots or bike parking - is this included in the plan?
- Should the Co-op formally support the plan? The deadline for input has passed.
- Colin will contact ZWH to see how we can support the plan

Zero Impact and the Eureka Remodel:

- Colin likes the list of metrics proposed in the plan
- Sustainability Coordinator position is posted
- 2 minor changes to the document (pg. 1 the project timeline should say “first quarter of FY17” and on page 3 under “Potential Impact Mitigation Measures” remove “purchase carbon offset” bullet point)
- We had a gap in data while Kiya was gone, but Jolie has updated the data. We currently have the data available for Juliette to move forward
- We’re going to ensure we have the key metrics ready to measure- need to mitigate potential mitigation measures-offsetting impacts.
- What is the procedure for identifying what the potential impacts are; how do we analyze the data?
- When do we have enough information to analyze the data? Need more data
- Once we get the sustainability coordinator hired we will have more staff time dedicated to this
- Need a way to track our durable containers at POS. Jason working with Juliette on this
- Brief discussion on if charging for throw-away containers is more effective than a discount on bringing durable. Not until we started charging for paper bags did we really see a change. Offering a bag discount did not make the difference-charging for bags did

- We want to create a paradigm shift-shift the expectation for packaging from retailer to consumer
- The important thing is the metrics-if board and staff can agree on the metrics and get updates on the progress, then that would be the important thing
- This plan is just the framework-not the implementation plan
- Should be some action taken by the board- the board approved the deli remodel going forward, but one of the conditions is clarifying the environmental issues
- Melanie clarified that the mitigation is by the project as a whole-not each individual metric
- Colin clarifies that he thought we were measuring each individual metric individually
- The question is how do we offset our impact? Is it item by item or as a whole?
- If we take each metric item by item- the cost of the project would increase - we would need to add solar panels. Melanie does not know if achieving net zero impact item by item will be possible under the current plan/budget
- Melanie needs specifics on what the board wants/needs to see in order to approve this plan
- Clarification that it is not each metric separately that we need to measure, but the overall impact from waste or energy, or water usage. Metrics can be lumped together by categories (energy/greenhouse gas/pollution, waste, water usage)
- How do we measure waste net zero impact? Estimate packaging, look at the percentage of sales in bulk or produce
- Colin says it comes down to the metrics
- Mary Ella asks if bringing Juliette back to clarify the metrics.
- Would like to invite Juliette to come to May board meeting to give a presentation on this plan

Zero Waste at board and committee meetings:

Leah will email her proposal and we will discuss at the June meeting

Discuss agenda items for next meeting:

- Revisit the net zero impact plan
- Zero waste for board and committee meetings
- Feedback about supporting the ZW efforts of City of Arcata

Review: Next meeting will be June 14th at 6:45pm

Meeting Adjourned at 8:02 pm

Minutes by Nicole Chase

Recommendations for the Board: None at this time
