



**North Coast Co-op  
Earth Action Committee (EAC) Minutes  
June 14, 2017– Ten Pin Building Mezzanine, Arcata**

**EAC Members present:** Leah Stamper, Cheri Strong, Colin Fiske  
**Member-Employees present:** Nicole Chase, Emily Walter, Kiya Villarreal  
**Members present:** Roger

At 6:45 pm the meeting is called to order by committee chair Leah

**1. Welcomes/Introductions/Agenda Review and Additions:**

Agenda item three was removed and replaced with a Sustainability Coordinator update.

**2. Approve April 12, 2017 Minutes**

Consensus reached to approve the April 12, 2017 minutes.

~~**3. Revisit the net zero impact plan**~~

**3. Sustainability Coordinator Update** - reported by Kiya

Industrial Compost: Currently negotiating a 1-year pricing contract with The Worm Guy (a local business) to take all the co-ops industrial compost items.

Co+efficient Program: Co+efficient is a National Co+op Grocers (NCG) sustainability program designed to improve co-ops' social, environmental, and local economic impacts. It offers a common framework for co-ops to measure their sustainability baseline, analyze strengths and opportunities, and improve sustainability results using program tools and resources. Kiya is collecting data and metrics where Brenda left off for our Co+efficient program.

B Corps: Working on assessment to see if our co-op qualifies to apply to be a certified B corporation. B Corps are for-profit companies certified by the nonprofit B Lab to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency.

Climate Collaborative: Companies can commit to one or all of a set of innovative and practical climate initiatives. Together businesses can work to scale solutions to successfully meet the challenge of climate change. This is a document that has no requirements that the co-op could sign onto. It's on the honor system and is aligned with our sustainability goals. Kiya will forward to store managers for review to see if the co-op wants to sign on. Not sure who needs to make the decision about signing on, the General Manager or the board?

**4. Feedback About Supporting the Zero Waste Efforts of the City of Arcata** - reported by Colin

Recommendation to the board to direct staff to work with ZWH and the City of Arcata to help implement Arcata's zero waste plan, including being represented on any task/work teams.

- Recology is buying out Eel River Disposal
- The group discussed waste disposal issues in the area and ideas of encouraging waste reduction.
- Kiya will communicate ideas about waste disposal with the appropriate zero waste action committee.

5. **Arcata Traffic Discussion** - reported by Colin

Street Safety

- Stops signs went up on the corner of 8<sup>th</sup> and I in Arcata last week. Many people are not used to the stop signs and people should take extra precaution when using that intersection until people become familiar with the new stop signs.
- The City of Arcata is currently accepting feedback about parking. We can comment to the city about traffic/parking. Example- eliminate parking on one side of I street to make road safer for bikes.

Arcata Parking Lot Discussion:

- The Arcata co-op is no longer held to having a certain amount of parking spots and has flexibility with redesigning the parking lot. This allows possibilities of making changes to encourage walking/biking etc.
- Colin says studies show that with less available parking people drive less. Studies show positive business for business that offer good bike parking.
- Is there data that shows where Arcata shoppers are coming from (Erk/Mck/Arc/etc.)?
- Idea! Do a survey at the register. "How did you get here today?"
- The group would like to see improved bike racks at the Arcata store.

6. **Zero Waste at Board and Committee Meetings** – reported by Leah

- Review Purchasing Policy as a reference/guideline
- Label snacks w/ bulk bin number and tare, use seasonal/local items, serve bulk tea in the future
- More produce, not just bulk item snacks
- Print agendas/packets on demand

7. **New business**

Bulk Products

- Roger wants easier access to bulk tofu in the store
- The group would like to see bulk organic salsa/hummus available in store

Additional Food Labeling

- Roger would like to see conventional foods with more labeling (i.e. Food grown with petro-chemicals).
- The group discussed better promotional labeling for small producers that aren't officially organic, but that do in fact produce products free of chemicals

8. **Discuss agenda items for next meeting:**

- Check-in about zero waste at meetings
- Traffic – develop suggestions for the Arcata parking lot and city of Arcata traffic
- Sustainability Coordinator Update

9. **Review:** Next meeting will be July 12 at 6:45pm

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:48 pm**

*Minutes by Emily Walter*

**Recommendations for the Board:** Direct staff to work with Zero Waste Humboldt and the city of Arcata to help implement Arcata's zero waste plan, including being represented on any task/work teams as possible.