



North Coast Co-op
Earth Action Committee (EAC) Minutes
June 21, 2016 – Co-op Community Kitchen, Arcata

EAC Members present:

Peggy Leviton, Melanie Bettenhausen, Dave Feral, Roger, and Kiya Villarreal (notetaker)

At 5:30pm Dave Feral welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order, and established the agenda.

Agenda Review: no discussion

Minutes: **Consensus reached to approve the May 24 2016 minutes.**

Board Meeting follow-up. Discussion included:

The recommendations made were all approved with minor revisions. EAC will work to establish a timeline, any budget revisions, and follow through procedures. Once these tasks are completed by the EAC the policies should be implemented by staff and open to staff development.

- Inquiry should be made to Humboldt Zero Waste consultant fee.
- Kris Harris CFO and Peggy will determine FY2017 budget revisions; Humboldt Zero Waste will help determine costs to be presented for budget revisions
- **Task Management Software** will be helpful for accountability
 - Also used to encourage follow-through with grab&go changes and incentivized durables projects.

Consensus reached: Finance Committee Meeting (August) is a reasonable soft deadline for revisions to the FY2017 budget.

Car traffic reduction options. Discussion included:

Stop sign: The stop sign on intersection of 8th and I St. is awaiting to be resubmitted to City of Arcata following more signatures of support from surrounding businesses. We recognize fewer stops are preferred for Bike Boulevard however, ultimately feel the stop sign is in the best interest for increased safety for all.

- Letter is already written and has previously been submitted
- The updated letter can be circulated amongst local businesses in immediate area for clarity
- Mary Ella will contact more businesses to ask for their signed endorsement of the stop sign before resubmitting to City of Arcata

Incentives and Staff support for Bus Routes:

Ultimately adding a bus stop closer to our stores and helping create a 'line route' is consistent with Strategic Plan, increased marketability and sales. Reach out to RTS, HTA, and AMRTS regarding future development plans, the Co-op can be part of the discussion. AMRTS is a priority as HSU students are a large target-market in the area. Contact Humboldt County Tax Assessor and Mark Lovelace County (district 3) Supervisor for bonds or available funds for incentivizing staff bus use.

- Reduces car traffic congestion
- Increases access to low-income population and mobility-limited
- Increases marketability of Co-op with sustainable interests and local partnership with bus systems
- Any bus route expansions are helpful with the growing projections for City of Arcata population and increased HSU enrollment
- Partnership bus&bike route reusable co-op shopper bags

Potential limiting factors to investigate- bus stops blocking Bike Boulevard, regulations of sidewalk width, and parking lot becoming a shortcut for impatient drivers.

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Prioritize outstanding items from charter. Discussion included:

Outstanding items are addressed during prioritization process and will be an ongoing topic.

EVC: Electric Vehicle Charging in Eureka can be simple and inexpensive. The north side of the Eureka store currently has 120 volt outlets that can be switched into 240 volt outlets. The vandalism could be an issue and also the expense of making it handicap-able accessible. However, we can avoid the regulatory issues by the switching of the 120 outlets into 240 outlets. It becomes an unofficial charging option and convenience for our long-distance shoppers. To use the outlet customers will request the code of a lockbox on the outlet.

Conscious disposal bins: Creating tri-bins for landfill, recycling, and compost. Our present system is inefficient and outdated. Duncan and Toby, as an outside contractor, have discussed an option to custom build these bins this is still an option. The presence of all three disposal options to our shoppers will create educational opportunities for proper disposal. Staff training will also be beneficial along with educational signage.

Agenda items for next meeting.

Follow-up from Board Meeting

Brenda discuss Sustainability Report

Melanie report back on City Planner/bus routes information

Dave report back on available city funds regarding transportation

Melanie report back on the communal interests of Zero Waste Humboldt and EAC

Revisit outstanding items of Charter

Review: Next meeting will be July 19 at 5:30pm

Committee Recommendations:

- 1) To Direct Maintenance crew to convert an outlet on North side of Eureka store from 120 voltage into 240 voltage outlets for an unofficial charging option by September. If further assistance is needed contact Roger.
- 2) Direct staff to update the waste streams, recycling, and compost bins at both stores. Include Staff training and signage. Implemented before next membership meeting by October 15th.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20pm

Minutes by Kiya Villarreal