



North Coast Co-op
Earth Action Committee (EAC) Minutes
July 19, 2016 – Co-op Community Kitchen, Arcata

EAC Members present:

Peggy Leviton, Melanie Bettenhausen, Dave Feral, Collin Fiske, Lauren Fawcett, Roger, Jolie Harvey, Brenda Harper, and Kiya Villarreal (notetaker)

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

Agenda Review: Discussion included:

Types of reusable bags sold in stores will be added to agenda

Consensus reached to approve the June 21, 2016 minutes.

Board Meeting follow-up. Discussion included:

Both motions passed by Board.

1. 240 voltage outlet for unofficial charging option at Eureka store
2. Creating new waste bins at both stores updates by Oct 15th

Sustainability Report. Discussion included:

The Co+efficient program was developed by NCGc specifically for Co-ops. Training programs were developed by NCG to be used by staff within the Co-op. The Co+efficient program works to record, quantify, and track the metrics of co-op operations and practices. The program creates a narrative of how a sustainable co-op looks. Brenda Harper has worked with this program from NCG to create information to be utilized by Co-op, the Sustainability Committee (now dissolved), and also to develop internal Green Teams.

- Kiya Villarreal from Outreach has expressed interest in this project and will be trained with Sheila Samuelson from NCG to take off where Brenda left off with the Co+efficient program. The potential future of this program is tracking data, analyzing trends, creating improved and informed sustainability practices.
- The GM and the CFO can come together in the future to create a job description that encompasses the responsibilities of ensuring sustainability within the Co-op, maintaining the Co+efficient program, and the maintenance of Green Teams for cross-departmental participation with sustainable practices.
- There is a possibility to also offer an internship opportunity to an HSU student to offer support with this.

A recommendation to the Board to direct staff to create a position for tracking, reporting, and formulating sustainability strategies while overseeing coordinating efforts of a "Green Team"

Bags In-Store. Discussion included:

Both stores carry bags from NCG that are not made of responsibly sourced materials. These bags are affordable but the Co-op does not need to carry reusable bags that are not made sustainably. We offer locally made options created from recycled materials as well. We should work to only sell re-usable shopping bags that are sustainable. It has been determined that this topic is more appropriate for the Policies & Procedures Committee since they are discussing a purchasing policy. We can also be reducing single-use bulk bags. Washing stations or implementation of OZZI vending machine for durables to be used in bulk can be solution. Morgan King, Sustainability Coordinator at HSU would be a good person to invite to present at a board meeting.

A recommendation to the Board to direct Lauren Fawcett to research feasibility of OZZI machines or similar item and all systems necessary to support and implement successfully in both stores with the placement and cost. Report back in October 2016

City Planner/Bus Route. Discussion included:

Larry Pardi of City of Arcata Transportation Department will be invited to the August meeting to speak about bus stops. Melanie Dabill of City of Arcata stated the stop sign at 8th & I Streets in Arcata cannot be installed because National Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) reported the traffic count too low. Collin will research if this code can be granted an exception.

Available city funds for transportation. Tabled for next meeting

Zero Waste Humboldt and EAC communal interest report. Discussion included:

Awaiting for return of Maggie Gainer. Alex Stillman can connect Zero Waste Humboldt with us as educators to our staff and volunteer support during events.

Sustainable Food Trade Association has provided a bid for prioritizing goals around sustainability. Juliette Bohn has provided a bid to review waste stream systems.

- Both of these would require a point-person as main contact for these possible subcontractors. This could be the same person in the position to work with the Co+efficient program as one connected general sustainability goal
- Alicia Hammer and Lauren Fawcett have been inquiring about prices for best single-use packaging
- Eureka Deli Manager has a spreadsheet of possible costs for alternate single-use packing options

Waste bins Update. Discussion Included:

Melanie met with Kevin, Toby, and Duncan about waste bins system. Toby has presented design ideas for new waste stream bins made of repurposed materials as an outside contractor.

To be complete in next six weeks, by end of August or early September.

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

Board Review

Transportation Funds

Zero Waste update

Speaker: Larry from City of Arcata Transportation Department

Sustainability position and Co+efficient program report progress

Review: Next meeting will be August 16 at 5:30pm

Committee Recommendations:

1. Direct staff to create a position for tracking, reporting, and formulating sustainability strategies while overseeing coordinating efforts of "Green Teams"
2. Direct Lauren Fawcett to research feasibility of OZZI machines or similar item, all systems necessary to support/implement successfully in both stores regarding placement and cost. Report back in October 2016

Meeting Adjourned at 7:20pm

Minutes by Kiya Villarreal