



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

EAC Members present:

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

At 6:05pm Dave Feral welcomed everyone, called the meeting to order, and established the agenda.

Agenda:

Create formal name

Create mission statement

Address Sustainability Committee Charter

Committee Naming Discussion included:

Should 'Peace' be incorporated? Simplicity in Earth Action Committee might be more broad and approachable. **Consensus reached to remain with "Earth Action Committee"**

20 Year Statement of Sustainability Discussion included:

"...collective commitment to regenerate and strengthen ecological and social, local and global relationships in our daily activities." This statement should be the EACs springboard into our Statement of Purpose.

Sustainability Committee Charter Discussion included:

I. Transportation Discussion included:

- a. Regarding the operational plan- the RTA bus stop at Eureka store partially fulfilled objectives of Fiscal year '16. More work to be done into creating a loop-route with Greg Pratt from Humboldt Transit Authority. The conceptual possibilities of the route would create a loop from B St. to Broadway with a loop around 4th St. and 5th St. at 20 minute intervals with bus transfers available.
- b. HTA needs data and performance feasibility study before it can work towards this loop-route. Funding can come from grants, Co-op matching efforts, HSU Grad Students research opportunities (Social Behavior Norms of Transportation)
- c. Need to address parking during high-impact times of lunch rush. Environment and economic interests mutually beneficial with this project.
- d. Does RCAA have a place in this discussion to help with funding and research opportunities?
- e. Biking incentives and bus pass sales at customer service need to be explored
- f. NCG audit on bikes in store and also Melanie Williams employee biking survey report exists
- g. Reduce emissions, reduce traffic congestion, increase safety, increase access, increase sales
- h. Utilize Kiosk in Arcata store parking lot more to advocate for biking etc....

II. Zero Waste Humboldt Discussion included:

- a. Understanding "pre-cycling" by rethinking our disposable container purchases "what's the least harmful packaging?"
- b. Health department issues with BYOC (bring your own container) for store purchases
- c. Staff retention in prepared foods could inhibit policies for ordering least harmful packaging
- d. Co-op members as a research team for food container types

III. Partnerships with Local-Area Festivals Discussion included:

- a. These are combined business opportunities for us

continued...

- b. Our store as a buying warehouse or buying club for food trucks and festival vendors
 - i. Explore this option after we have a better understanding of our own container purchases
- IV. Grant applications Discussion included:
 - a. We want a grant for an EVC (electric vehicle Charger)
 - b. The window with Redwood Coast Energy Authority has passed
 - c. Needs to be equal access/handicapable
 - i. Requires much higher cost
 - d. Volunteer position opportunity- explore how Real Goods in Hopland got a Tesla charger installed at Tesla's expense
- V. Replacement Waste Receptacles Discussion included:
 - a. Three-compartment bins are coming
 - b. Increase educational signage with utilization of the new bins
 - i. Sorting education should encourage a positive positionality rather than guilt tactics
- VI. Staff-training for Waste and Recyclables Discussion included:
 - a. Food digester opportunities
 - i. Humboldt Waste Management Authority and the pilot project opportunity for a food digester. The Co-op passed on this particular opportunity
 - b. A combined goal to consider during remodels
 - i. What are the size and cost restraints
- VII. Bike Trailer Rentals Discussion included:
 - a. This project would have to be presented to Board to delegate to Front-End or Outreach departments
 - b. We currently have the bike trailers with \approx 4 donations pending
 - i. Getting more is not an issue
 - c. Need a system to rent such as deposit
- VIII. Educational Bulk Programs Discussion included:
 - a. How to Buy in Bulk- staff education and consumer education

Review:

Peggy and Dave will draft a charter for EAC. The charter will be brought to the next Board meeting.

Next meeting will be May 17th at 6pm

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm

Minutes by Kiya Villarreal