



Earth Action Committee

Minutes – March 14, 2018

Ten Pin Building Mezzanine, Arcata

Board Members present: Colin Fiske, Cheri Strong

Member-Employees present: Emily Walter, Laurie Talbert, Travis Morgan

Members present: Roger

1. Welcomes and Review

At 6:48pm the meeting was called to order by board member Colin.

2. Approve Minutes

Consensus reached to approve the February 2018 minutes.

3. Member Comments

- Cheri – mentioned two articles in the February issue of Science magazine article about volatile compounds. She recommends every read them.
- Roger – there is no continuity at the Co-op with our solar. Maybe we can find a better way to keep information available to new staff.
 - o Travis – everything is now documented for maintenance. There is a binder for every system to detail monitoring, maintenance and decisions made for each system.

4. Renewable Energy – Reported by Travis

- Roger – we have a demo solar system. It's unique with two different types of solar panels to see if one was better than the other. Time has shown there is no real difference. A \$350,000 grant was obtained around 2005 to improve the solar system. This new system was never installed. If it had been installed it would have been paid off in 14 years.
- If we were to install solar in Eureka we would want an agreement with the owner that they would buy it if the lease expired.
- When looking at solar we also need to look at different kinds of rates we are charged from PG&E.
- The Arcata roof could be redone to get more energy production.

ACTION: Travis will look deeper into peak demand energy fees

5. Transportation Survey – Reported by Laurie

- Marketing staff have not found a time to schedule the survey yet. Once the marketing plan is approved a 3-month timeline will be scheduled accordingly and we should be able to figure out where the survey will fit in.
- Roger - would like to see the gas and mileage being used by Co-op vehicles to compare costs of purchasing an electric vehicle in the future.

ACTION: Travis will investigate our vehicle data.

6. Lack of Recycling – Reported by Colin

Plastic bags and plastic wrap are not being recycled.

- Cheri – believes UNFI takes the shrink wrap from the pallets
 - Cheri – isn't Safeway mandated to take plastic bags?
 - Travis – UNFI takes it from Eureka but not Arcata and they just throw it away.
 - Cheri – suggests having Travis ask Safeway what they are doing with their own plastic.
 - Colin – mentioned zero waste Humboldt might have more information.
- ACTION: Travis will find out if Safeway takes plastic bags and what they do with their own.

7. Next Agenda Items

- Energy planning
- Discussion of current Co-op vehicle use and potential for electric vehicles
- Transportation Survey
- Update on plastic bag recycling

8. Review: Next meeting will be April 11, 6:45-8pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:33pm

(Minutes by Emily Walter)