



Earth Action Committee

Minutes – April 8, 2020

Zoom Call

Board Members: Roger, Cheri Strong, Colin Fiske

Member-Employees: Kiya Villareal, Emily Walter

Members:

1. **Welcomes and Review** – At 6:46pm the meeting was called to order.
2. **Approve Minutes** – Consensus reached to approve the March 2020 minutes.
3. **Member Comments**
 - Roger - recommends checking in with janitorial staff to see if there are changes in priority from composting, etc, to health care.
 - Colin - the plastics industry is trying to take advantage of the COVID-19 situation. Why don't we allow shoppers to bring their own bags? Is there scientific/health reasoning? I want to make sure that we follow the best available information.
4. **Review Action Items - reported by Kiya**
 - Updated the Environmental Section of the Strategic Plan - Kiya is working on this.
 - Tracking Waste – brainstormed the best things to track that have usable metrics. It was suggested to coordinate with other local stores to influence UNFI to use reusable totes.
5. **Purchasing Policy - reported by Kiya**
 - The policy has been heavily edited and is still in draft form. The changes do not change the original actions of the policy. If anything, the policy will end up being stronger than the original. When the draft is complete it will be reviewed by the board for approval.
6. **Campaign for a composting facility - reported by Kiya**
 - Kiya listed the most relevant assembly bill numbers as the main focal points of the letter. Kiya read the letter to the committee.
7. **Zero Waste Policy during COVID-19**

We should explore stainless steel deposit durables system.
8. **Sustainability Officer Update** – reported by Kiya
Reported in previous agenda items.
9. **Next Agenda Items**
 - Campaign for composter - approve draft / outreach plan
 - Update on UNFI sustainability report
 - Contactless/Durable Deposits
 - COVID-19 sustainability reflections

Floating Items:

- Plastic Free Month

ACTION ITEMS

- Colin will reach out to Sean about concerns around reusable bags and plastic gloves.
- Kiya will email draft industrial composter campaign letter to the committee.

10. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is May 13, 6:45-8pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:46pm

Minutes by Emily Walter