



# Earth Action Committee

Minutes – December 9, 2020

Zoom Call

**Board Members:** Pamela Lee, Roger

**Member-Employees:** Emily Walter, Kiya Villarreal

**Members:** Colin Fiske

1. **Welcomes and Review** – At 6:45pm the meeting was called to order.

2. **Approve November Minutes**

Approved by consensus.

3. **Member Comments**

Colin brought up the topic of reusable Container Situation and the committee discussed.

- There could be more education for staff that COVID is an airborne illness and isn't spread via surfaces. This could relieve stress and anxiety.
- Suggested to talk with Maggie Gainer, at Zero Waste Humboldt, about this topic to help us advocate for being able to use personal durables.
- There could be options for sanitizing personal durables in the stores.

4. **Arcata Single Use Disposable Ordinance**

The City of Arcata recently released an emergency order that included the Single Use Disposable ordinance that is set to start in January 2020. The requirement that would charge a fee for single use items will be pushed back to July 1, 2021.

5. **Durable Containers**

Staff have decided not to move forward with using OZZI exchangeable durables in the store. Staff believe there will be better options for durables soon.

7. **Sustainability Officer Update**

Onsight composting is in the works. Kiya has found a small commercial composter that can process 100lbs of compost into 10lbs of compost overnight. It would be rented and would cost just about the same amount as we currently pay to have our compost removed from site, and we would get to keep all the compost.

HWMA has been decertified as a CRV redemption site due to needing to make COVID related operational changes, which were unallowed by CalRecycle. This has led to all nearby retailers being sent letters of non-compliance (beginning after 60 days) regarding CRV. Onsite collection or pay \$100 per day are currently the only options if a retailer operates in a zone without a certified CRV redemption site. Jim Wood, and his local Field Advisor Erin Dunn, reached out to CalRecycle and the new director of CalRecycle requesting a moratorium due to emergency status of COVID and/or questioning the legalities of the requirements that are effectively a "tax" at this time as there's no certified CRV redemption site within 3 hours of our stores in the North Coast now that they have de-certified HWMA as a CRV redemption center. Kiya will have an update next month. It was suggested to contact NCG to see if they can help advocate on the CRV topic.

8. **Next Agenda Items**

- CRV

9. **Next Meeting Date**

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:40pm

*Minutes by Emily Walter*