



Earth Action Committee

Minutes – February 13, 2019

Arcata Co-op Conference Room, Arcata

Present

Board Members: Colin Fiske, Leah Stamper, Cheri Strong

Member-Employees: Emily Walter, Kiya Villarreal

Members: Kurt Christman

1. Welcomes and Review

At 6:51pm the meeting was called to order by Leah.

2. Approve Minutes

Consensus reached to approve the January 2019 minutes.

3. Member Comment

None

4. Solar – reported by Kiya

Kiya conveys from Roger that overall, we'll need a solar system that puts out 718 kilowatts. We'll end up saving ~\$150K annually. Upfront costs around \$1M. It will take about 9.5 years to pay it off. About \$100K could be knocked off with volunteer labor.

- Colin – should we be looking into grants? RCEA is about to adopt a tariff feed-in program for medium scale renewable projects (1-5 megawatts). We would get premium for feeding into the grid if we qualify. Would we be able to get a solar loan with a payment equal to or less than the offset?

ACTION: Kiya will look into organizations that do loans for solar projects.

ACTION: Kiya will talk to RCEA to find out more about what we could work out with a big solar project.

- Kiya - CRS has been helping us with our refrigeration. Kiya asked for all CRS reports on the store to update the CA Air Resources Board (CARB). The refrigerant systems in the Arcata store needs to be upgraded to a new system.

ACTION: Kiya will bring more information about refrigerant systems to the next EAC meeting.

5. Food Equity – reported by Kiya

The WIC training can be anywhere between would take 15-60 minutes.

ACTION: Kiya will pass WIC training information to Alanna to implement WIC trainings in the stores.

Currently looking into how to do bulk pack downs. There are strict rules from the CA Weights and Measures laws. There are also strict rules about minimum and maximum amounts of different types of foods that qualify for WIC.

- Leah – it would be great to educate people on how to do the WIC measurements themselves from bulk.
- Colin – can we put up signs in the bulk department? Maybe we could figure out a size container that is a pound when full? The container could have multiple lines for different types of bulk food.

ACTION: Kiya will get the bulk information, as far as buying more or less than a pound of a particular item, clarified prior to WIC training.

6. Arcata Parking Lot

- Colin – we could do temporary or trial changes to the parking lot to test things out. What if we close off all the entrances on 8th street and add bike/pedestrian space? We could do something like that on a Farmers Market day. We could put out tables, have space and see how it goes. If we could do it in a thoughtful way where it's inviting. If we were to make an event of it. We could have table deliveries from prepared foods.
- Kiya – hot bar opening in Eureka. How about offering more seating and food deliveries to tables there for a grand opening?
- Colin – the no idling signs were placed in the parking lot but people have removed them.
 - o Cheri – recommends posting them higher.

ACTION: Kiya will take parking lot ideas to Laurie.

7. Electric Vehicle Parking – reported by Kiya

Nothing to report.

ACTION: Kiya will look into this.

8. Sustainability Coordinator Update – reported by Kiya

Been busy getting everything out of the Ten Pin Building. Getting items repurposed and out of the dump. The Co+efficient annual survey is due on February 28. It will be interesting to compare the annual surveys.

ACTION: Kiya will complete the bike friendly business application.

9. Next Agenda Items

- Refrigerant systems (Travis)
- Parking Lot Pop Up (Laurie)
- Electric Vehicle Parking
- Co+efficient annual report

10. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting will be March 13, 6:45-8pm.

Leah will write the EAC report

Meeting Adjourned at 7:48pm

Minutes by Emily Walter