



# Earth Action Committee

## Minutes – March 11, 2020

Arcata Co-op Conference Room, Arcata

**Board Members:** Roger, Cheri Strong

**Member-Employees:** Kiya Villareal, Emily Walter, Joel Bradfield

**Members:** Joanne McGarry

1. **Welcomes and Review** – At 6:45pm the meeting was called to order.
2. **Approve Minutes** – Consensus reached to approve the February 2020 minutes.
3. **Member Comments**
  - Joanne – Likes OZZI reusable durable food containers. Wants to see the Co-op and other local food businesses offer and use OZZI containers.
    - o Kiya – the Co-op was looking into using OZZI containers during the Eureka remodel. To use them we'd need a place for people to deposit used containers and a system for washing/sanitizing containers. I think a good first step is for the Co-op to offer these containers to staff to use and get used to. We could work out any kinks in the system with staff before the program expands to all shoppers.
4. **Review Action Items**

Kiya contacted RCEA and they are excited about replacing more of our light fixtures in Eureka, like was done in Arcata.
5. **Strategic Plan**

The group reviewed the environmental goals of the strategic plan. Kiya updated the committee on the progress of certain goals.
6. **Campaign for Composting Facility**

Currently none of the local municipalities appear to be seriously looking into acquiring a local industrial composting facility. Part of the strategic plan includes the Co-op initiating a campaign to encourage local municipalities to find ways to implement industrial composting.
7. **Zero Waste Policy**

The metrics of the current policy are vague as far as reducing waste 5% annually. The April EAC committee will review Kiyas draft of what should be used to track waste.
8. **20-Year Statement of Sustainability**

The committee reviewed the 20-year statement of sustainability. The committee agreed that the second paragraph of the statement is good but that the first paragraph is redundant of other statements and policies. There are no measurements of sustainability within the statement so the committee agreed that the “20-Year” part of the statement should be removed and that it should simply be a statement of sustainability.
9. **Sustainability Officer Update** – reported by Kiya

Focusing on wooden utensils and compostable utensils and introducing an alternative transportation card for Earth Day. This will be advertised throughout April.

  - Kiya would like to offer discounted bus passes for employees in the future.

#### 10. Next Agenda Items

- Campaign for an industrial composting facility
- Clarify zero waste policy
- Employee durable program w/ token exchange
- Purchasing Policy update review

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

- Kiya will update the environmental section of the strategic plan and forward to Emily.
- Kiya will take the lead to draft an industrial composting facility campaign letter and talk to Alex about the ability to get it on the website for our members to use.
- Kiya will draft a document of waste she is capable of tracking and what should be used for tracking annual reduction of waste.

#### *Floating Items:*

- Plastic Free Month

#### 11. Next Meeting Date

Next meeting is April 8, 6:45-8pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:01pm

*Minutes by Emily Walter*