



Earth Action Committee

Minutes – March 8, 2023

Zoom Call

Board Members: Roger, Brenda Harper, Laura Jones

Member-Employees: Emily Walter, Kiya Villarreal

Members: Holly K.

1. **Welcomes and Review** – At 6:02pm the meeting was called to order.

2. **Approve Minutes**

Consensus to approve the February EAC minutes.

3. **Member Comments**

- Roger – I think we should think of ideas that members can help us with to get them actively participating with this committee.
- Kiya – a few people are sad that the compost program is ending with the end of the lease of the composter.
- Holly – at the board meeting people were talking about plans for the 50 year anniversary party. I think sustainability should be a big focus at the party.

4. **Plastic Reduction** – reported by Kiya

The Meat Department is on board with shoppers using their own containers at the Meat Department. Kiya is going to get a BYOD sticker for the Eureka store meat cases.

I've talked with prepared foods about switching out some of the clam shells with compostable cases. We stopped using plastic bags in the animal diversion area. We have a few chicken farmers that Holly connected us with. All scrap is now being taken with their own buckets, and we no longer need a plastic liner. I'd say we're saving about 16 plastic bags a week.

5. **Sustainability Benchmarks**

The committee continued reviewing and updating the Environmental and Social Benchmarks.

Average Active Memberships

This number has been slowly increasing year to year. Also, there are more members each year, so the number should increase.

- Current: no target
- New Target: 7,550

Sales from Co-op Member Owners

We have not met our target yet in the last two years, but we have been really close. Previously, we separated out employee member purchases. They're now going to be put together which raises the percent. So the target should be increased.

- Current: 61%
- New Target: 65%

Community Donations

- Current: \geq \$100,000

- New Target: \geq \$120,000

6. Sustainability Update – reported by Kiya

Today was our last composter tour to help educate other local organizations and municipalities about the composter. North Coast Growers Association (NCGA) and the Trinidad Rancheria both attended today. NCGA is hoping to take our composter and lease it, which would be great.

Hambro/recycling center is looking into renting a small space/kiosk in front of the Eureka store to collect CRV. It would be like a locking shed in the parking lot that they would empty daily, taking the materials to Arcata or Fortuna. We are continuing dialogue with them to see if we can make this work for us both. It would save us from paying \$100/day due to not accepting CRV in Eureka.

We are changing the Alternative Transportation Card to a “Car Free Card.” We are dropping it from 15 to 12 stamps per card.

Our Earth Day Zero Waste Market event is really coming along. Zero Waste Humboldt is coordinating the event and it’s a fundraiser for them. It will be held in the Arcata parking lot.

7. Next Meeting Date

Wednesday, April 12

- Roger – the Earth Action Committee has shifted to a report instead of being an action committee. I would like to encourage a shift more back to action.

Next Agenda Items:

- How to get more people to take action.
- Strategic Plan Review

Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm

Minutes by Emily Walter