



# Earth Action Committee

Minutes – May 8, 2019

Arcata Co-op Conference Room, Arcata

**Present**

**Board Members:**

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

**Members:**

## 1. Welcomes and Review

At 6:47pm the meeting was called to order by Leah.

Added agenda item to discuss increasing education about recycling in stores.

## 2. Approve Minutes

Consensus reached to approve the April 2019 minutes.

## 3. Member Comment

People are upset about the new change with people not being able to use WIC to purchase bulk items. Signs are up to inform shoppers.

ACTION: Kiya will write a letter to WIC. Kiya will ask NCG to write a letter.

## 4. Recycling Education – reported by Kiya

The current Co-op news article is about our waste flow. Currently working to update the sort bins in front of the stores.

Education ideas:

- Labels next to plastic produce bags that inform people that they are not recyclable.
- Have bamboo utensils available at each register as an option to purchase instead of taking a plastic utensil.
- Provide info sheets to cashiers that include recycling facts about Co-op stuff (i.e. bread bags, plastic bags).

## 5. Bike Friendliness

The committee brainstormed ideas to make the Co-op more bike friendly.

- Bike parking for trailers
- Zagster codes for employees (being provided as of early May)
- Co-op News member question: What can we do to get you to bike more to the Co-op?
- Monthly raffle for those that – bike/walk/bus
- Can the free speech zone be moved to accommodate better bike rack positioning?

## 6. Review Strategic Plan

The committee wants to review the Strategic Plan, two sections at a time, at future EAC meetings until the review is complete. The committee would like to link any EAC suggestions/motions to the Strategic Plan.

## 7. Electric Vehicle Station

It's hard to find out how much the Co-op would make from a charging station. The cost of electricity is covered by fees.

ACTION: Kiya will apply for an electric vehicle charging station grant.

ACTION: Kiya will do further research about having RCEA maintain the stations to reduce any risk.

#### **8. Sustainability Coordinator Update**

- Kiya reported data of the percent of people using their own cups.
  - o Have an encouraging sign that can be updated that has a dial showing the percent of shoppers using their own cups. Help us get to 100%!
- The bike pamphlet was updated showing a changed route in Arcata.
- Lighting will be updated in the Arcata store with the potential of lowering the PG&E bill by \$1,000/month.

#### **9. Next Agenda Items**

- Purchasing Policy – palm oil, beef
- Review first two sections of the Strategic Plan

#### **10. Next Meeting Date**

Next meeting will be June 12, 6:45-8pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:07pm

*Minutes by Emily Walter*