



Green Team Committee Minutes

Wednesday, January 13th, 2010 7:00pm-8:00pm

Meetings end at 8:00pm unless the committee votes to end earlier or extend the time

Hamilton Senior High School Cafeteria

2955 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034

- I. **Attendance:** Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Larry Hess, Karen Antholis, Kathy Lewis, Erin Amini, Paula Waxman, Saran Kirschbaum, Bette Billet, Mark Davis, Eric Weise, Valerie Sacks
- II. **General Public Comments:** Barry Levine brought to the attention of the committee that Soronc Candidate Information Sessions will be held, Jan. 14th and Jan. 25th at the Robertson Library between 6:30 and 7:45 pm. We encourage our neighbors to run for office and make a difference in our community.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL S.A.F.E. CLUB : Nika Allahverdi/Paula Waxman

- a. **E-Waste/Battery Drive/Fruit Tree Distribution** will be held Jan. 23, 2010 from 10 am to 2 pm at Hamilton High School. The company processing the electronic waste no longer charges for hard drives. The students will post flyers printed by Terry Gomes. Charmaine suggest that the students keep any toner or ink cartridges that might be turned in. They can be taken to Staples or Office Depot for store credit. **I have attached a flyer with these minutes. Please copy and put one in your neighbor's mailbox.**

The Fruit Tree Give Away Program, sponsored by Tree People was enormously successful. We had 200 orders for 35 fruit trees. Tree People has promised us more trees for next year's program.

- b. **Sewer Screens:** The sewer entryways near Hamilton have been screened... probably done by Paul Koretz's office. Terry Gomes warned that before putting screens on the sewers they must be checked for wild life by Animal Control. Screening often captures domestic cats, raccoons, opossums etc.
- c. **Recycling Ad Campaign:** Paula and Erin will attend the S.A.F.E. meeting on Jan. 26 to assist the students in purchasing materials for their ad campaign to promote campus recycling.

B. FRIENDS OF HAMI GARDEN: Paula introduced Erin Amini to members of the Green Team. Erin has volunteered to oversee and develop the Hami Garden. She scheduled the first work team on the garden over Winter Break with roughly 20 students from Hamilton and Brooke Power's RAL program. Compost bins were installed, weeds cleared, sports equipment moved. Lots of progress was made.

Nika explained that the Garden Club is already planning to collect vegetable waste from the lunch period to recycle as compost. Kathy Lewis who manages Canfield's well established garden, has offered to donate worms to help break down the vegetable matter. Saran offered to donate a worm bin.

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Bette Billet and Saran Kirschbaum suggested that we keep Paul Koretz and Herb Wesson up to date on the progress of the Hami garden and to publicly commend the students and volunteers who are making it a reality.

C. SORO FESTIVAL

- a. **Goodie Bag Give Away Program:** Paula will be assigning Green Team members to solicit specific products to promote at the Soro Festival. She passed around new product ideas: a lunch bag sandwich wrap that also serves as a mat, and a biodegradable “plastic” type bag
- b. **Rain Barrel Sale:** Larry Hess has contacted a rain barrel company that was recommended by the Mar Vista Green Team. They would be willing to have a booth at the fair. There was also discussion about having a workshop on how one can make homemade barrels. Larry will explore this possibility
- c. **Compost Bin Sale:** Paula Waxman contacted the city to see if they would like us to presell compost bins at the fair. Has not heard back from them.
- d. **The first Soro Inc. meeting** to discuss the 2010 Soro Festival is next week on Jan. 19th. Paula, Larry, and Phyllis will be attending to see if the festival planners would be agreeable to a Green theme for the festival this year. Contact Paula if you want to attend.
- e. **Green Booths:** It was suggested that we invite the following groups and businesses to have booths at the festival because of their work in green programs and conservation: Heal the Bay, Greenpeace, Rain Barrel and Gutter Businesses, Composters, Worm Sellers, LADWP (workshops on water capture), Vons (a business that is taking great efforts to green its practices). It is best to contact in writing, the central headquarters of large businesses like Vons and Ralphs and provide tax id numbers which Soro Inc. has.

D. CITY BEAUTIFICATION:

South Robertson Tree Planting Program, Larry Hess has been meeting with Mark Davis, Field Rep. for Paul Koretz and the LA Conservation Corps. To decide what types of trees, how many, and where they should be planted. Meetings slowed over the holidays but are resuming. It has been decided to stay with the type of trees that are already there because of cost but to increase their number and possible density. The cost of post-planting care and maintenance has still to be worked out.

F. NEWSLETTER/ WEBSITE : Larry will be working on this in the next few weeks. Terry Gomes said that the Green Team will have space on the new Soronc website. It was decided that rather than wait for the Soro website, we would establish a link to our newsletter on the Soronc site.

G. FRESH FRUIT COLLECTION AND DROP OFF: Green Teamers will be picking fruit from the citrus trees of our local residents and delivering the fruit to our local SOVA FOOD BANK. Picking days are Jan. 31st and Feb. 14th from 10 am to 12 noon. Please contact **Saran at (310) 559-1281, sarank@mac.com** if you have a fruit tree that needs harvesting **or if you would like to volunteer** to help with the picking. It will be lots of fun and not a huge investment of time but will help out folks in need right now. **I have attached a flyer to these minutes. Please copy and drop in your neighbor’s mail box if you see that they have fruit that needs picking!!!**

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