



Green Team Committee Minutes

Thursday, May 21, 2008, 7:00pm

Hamilton Senior High School Cafeteria

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

- I. **Call to Order & Roll Call:** Larry Hess called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
Present: Paula Waxman, Larry Hess, Brooke Powers, Charmaine Colina, Saran Kirschbaum, Barry Levine, Bill Rains, Ramsey Salem

- II. **General Public Comment**
 - a. **Paula Waxman:** Reminded the group that **The 4th Citywide Conference for the city of LA's Zero Waste Plan** will be held May 30, 09 from 7:30am (8:30 if you do not plan to have breakfast) to 1:30pm. Zero waste plans will be ratified and exhibitions of zero waste products will be displayed.
 - b. **Paula Waxman:** asked for Volunteers for the **Soro Festival Booth** on June 7th.

- III. **New Business**
 - a. Barry Levine moved that **Paula Waxman be the Chairman nominee of the Green Team Committee and Larry Hess the Co-Chair nominee of the Green Team Committee to be voted on in the next Soronc Board Meeting.** The motion was passed unanimously.
 - b. Brooke Powers, Head of the Robertson Rec. Center would like to partner with the Green Team to create a **Robertson Rec. Center Garden** to be planted and maintained by the young people in her RAL (Robertson Activity League). The RAL program, funded by Soronc, is free to about 40 youth. It is a 3 day per week, 10 week summer program in which the attendees will go on field trips, participate in athletics and community service programs. In order to attend the field trips, the youth would have to earn points by working not only in the Rec. Center Garden, but also participating in community service programs
 - i. Saran Kirschbaum suggested that we look into having the Green Ambassadors address the RAL program. These are students from Environmental Charter School in Lawndale. Website: <http://greenambassadors.org/main//229>
 - ii. Charmaine Colina, of Castle Heights Elementary School invited Larry and Paula to see the many student gardens at her elementary school.
 - iii. Larry and Paula will get together with Brooke Powers to determine a planning date.
 - iv. Steve Coker, a gardener who helped to plan the Castle Heights gardens suggested that we first determine the "goal(s)" of the garden, whether it be for beautification, food, education, shade, traffic screening, drought tolerant, etc.
 - v. Saran Kirschbaum recommended that for future funding of Green Team projects that we document in pictures and even video, the progress of the garden project showing the before and after.
 - vi. Saran Kirschbaum can provide Sweet Pea seeds. She also thought that we could get free mulch at 6000 West Jefferson Street and possibly Wattles Park.
 - vii. It was also suggested that we contact Dara Frimmes at Temple Isaiah who is an expert in sustainable gardening.
 - viii. Paula Waxman provided packets of vegetable seeds for planting
 - c. Brooke suggested that she would like her **RAL kids to partner with any programs sponsored by the Green Team** such as graffiti abatement, ocean clean up, neighborhood cleanup.

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

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Vice-President

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- i. **Reynier Village Trash Problem:** Paula received an email from Martha Groves of Reynier Village stating the trash has become a horrible problem in her community. Brooke offered to volunteer the members of her RAL program to help with the cleanup. We will discuss the solution to Reynier Village's trash problem in greater depth when we have a representative from the community to present the problem in person.
- d. A representative from Soronc's Green Team is now on the DWP Committee. Paula Waxman was elected as **Soronc's representative to the DWP Committee**. She asked if there were any issues the committee would like her to monitor. The following was suggested:
Wind power should be put on the grid
Use of grey water
Is the Monday/Thursday sprinkler usage mandate which begins June 1st going to create problems with water pressure? Should it be odd/even days?
- e. **Community Outreach:**
 - i. Until the new website is up, at which point we will have a page devoted to the Green Team, we will have a link on the current site in the right column under Green Team News and it will go out before the Board Meetings.
 - ii. We are attempting to build membership by sending our agenda to and making personal contact with the following: Homeowner's Associations, Temples, Churches, Schools, and Business owners.
- f. **The Mayor's Day of Service on June 27th:** It has changed from a Job Fair to a Job Training event. It is still not clear what the mayor's office expects of us. We are awaiting further instructions.

IV. Old Business

- a. **Soro Inc. Festival on June 7th, 09:**
 - i. The Green Team will have a booth giving away free trees and free goodie bags in the form of recycled grocery bags from the city and book bags from BP Helios House. Thus far, the contents of the bags will be: trees, planting instructions, business coupons, rulers, Soro water bottles & pens, bottle cap removers, eco brochures, and more.
 - ii. Charmaine Colina suggested that to make the festival truly green, we should provide proper recycling bins and strongly suggest to booths providing food that they use recyclable utensils, such as: cane pulp plates, starch based cups. She also said that instead of plastic bottles of water that we provide water stations with paper cups or starch based cups. We are passing on these suggestions to the festival planners.
- b. **Hamilton High School Green Team Projects:** These projects such as recycling will be shelved until the end of the school term until we can get the principal on board. Paula did call the LAUSD Director of Sustainability for the Facility Services Div. , Naomi Zimmermann. She indicated that if the LAUSD Board approves their proposal, the first batch of schools, including Hamilton, will be solarized within the next 24 months.
- c. **Greening of South Robertson Business District**
 - i. Trees: Ramsey Salem, who helped to maintain the first trees planted along South Robertson, attended the Green Team meeting and has agreed to advise us on how to expand the number of trees along Robertson. We will also be contacting the neighborhood council in charge of the Motor Avenue tree planting project for advice on how to proceed. Paula learned that Tree People have a



division of their organization that can advise us on how to maintain trees once planted.

- ii. Grants: Paula attended a Community Beautification Grant Workshop. Grants must be turned in beginning in July and received no later than Oct.

V. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.

**NEXT GREEN TEAM MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 18TH, 2009.
PLACE TO BE ANNOUNCED.**