

- I. Meeting Called to Order
- II. Attendance: Larry Hess, Barry Levine, Phyllis Rothman, Nika Allahverdi, Charmaine Colina, Saran Kirschbaum, Alycia Witzling
- III. General Public Comments
 - a. Larry Hess announced that Elisa Leonelli is looking for volunteers to help her clean up a portion of the freeway embankment near 8849 Cattaragus. We discussed turning this into a larger clean up event, from La Cienega to Robertson & Robertson to National.
- IV. Member Reports
 - a. Nika reported that the **Hamilton High Green Team (SAFE)** will soon be determining a monthly meeting time and location. She reported that the recycling program is set to begin when the large bins arrive. Nika moved that the Soro Green Team recommend that Soronc provide the Hamilton High SAFE club \$568.38 for campaign to educate campus on new recycling program. The motion was approved unanimously (7 yes, 0 no). Nika further reported that SAFE would like to work with the Soro Green Team on neighborhood clean up events.
 - b. Charmaine Colina reported on the **Venice Eco Festival**. She said the event had over 100 booths at a cost of \$400 per booth. Charmaine and Paula are to meet with the event organizer regarding greening of the SoRo Festival. Charmaine discussed brainstorming for contents of give-away Goodie Bags. We discussed Smart & Final, Vons or Ralphs as a potential sponsor to the **SoRo Festival**.
 - c. Larry Hess reported on the **Compost bin** distribution event(s). He reported that Paula Waxman learned that the city will allow us to pre-sell compost bins to LA residents. The city cannot sell them on weekends anymore because it is overtime. Their idea is that we would collect the checks for the purchase of the bins, made out to the City. They would then deliver the bins during the week and we would distribute on the event weekend. We are awaiting approval by Terry Gomes Treasurer of the Soronc.
 - d. Larry Hess reported that the **Rain Barrel Distribution** with a private supplier would be too costly (\$125 per Barrel) for most residents and therefore an event of such alone might not be very successful. In addition, LADPW is conducting a Rainwater Harvesting Program in 2 neighborhoods of Los Angeles. No Soro neighborhood is a part of it. However all neighborhoods are encouraged to sign up online for a free rain barrel as LADPW does not think there's much interest in this program in the test neighborhoods. Saran mentioned that we should contact the Environmental Charter High School of Lawndale to discuss implementing their rain barrel program. Larry will follow up.
 - e. Elisa was not present to report on the **clean up of freeway underpasses** but did supply the following information to share. She contacted Michael Cones of Caltrans who said they only have 1 crew of 4 people working 22 miles. He reported that if a gate is unlocked, we are free to clean it up ourselves. Elisa and Steve Coker are planning to clean it this weekend.

- f. Larry Hess reported that **street tree planting** on Pico Blvd would be easier if we plant additional trees of the same in available spots. We all decided that October 24th, International Day of Climate Action (www.350.org), would be a great time to conduct this event. He will follow up with Mark Davis.
- g. Saran discussed the **Robertson Trash abatement/Walking Robertson** and what besides adopt a trash can we will be asking the business owners along Robertson. We mentioned discussing with businesses an adopt a can program and their involvement in the Soro Festival. We also discussed getting the businesses involved in providing “goodies” for our Green Team Goodie Bag at the Soro Festival. Saran to contact Noah Bleich who with Boaz Hefner organized the Pico clean up event.
- h. Larry reported that Paula Waxman went to the **Pico clean up event** organized by Boaz Hefner and Noah Bleich. Alycia was at the event as well and mentioned that 30-40 people turned out. We all agreed to that organizing an event with a larger organization would guarantee a larger turn out. Alycia mentioned that we could add an event to the CHP and LA City list of volunteer events in our area. Alycia mentioned that a trash pick up immediately following the event has to be scheduled to ensure all trash is removed. Saran to contact Boaz Hefner and/or Noah Bleich for access to their volunteer list.
- i. October 24: **World Wide Climate Change Day**: We are hoping to do the Robertson Tree planting on October 24th.
- j. Brooke Powers was not available to report on the **Succulent Planting**. The group liked the idea of spelling “SORO” with the succulents at the Robertson Rec Center corner of Robertson and Airdrome. The succulent planting is scheduled for September 23rd at 4pm at the Rec Center.

V. Old Business

- a. September 19th: **Coastal Clean Up, Heal the Bay**. Brooke Powers was not available to report. Saran mentioned volunteering for the Ballona Creek clean up event. Larry mentioned there might be a clean up event at the corner of La Cienega & Pico and will follow up and disseminate information.

VI. Adjournment