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Green Team Committee Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2009 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:** Paula Waxman, Karen Laramay, Charmaine Colina, Phyllis Rothman, Larry Hess, Elisa Lionelli, Nina Goldin, Nika Allahverdi, Saran Kirschbaum, Julie Weise

II. **General Public Comments**

Terry Gomes would like the Green Team to consider taking part in the **Tree People Fruit Tree Give Away Program:**

This will entail: 1. Sending an email blast to the neighbors letting them select a tree of their choice, 2. Hiring a truck, or getting someone to volunteer a truck to go out to a place in the (Sun Valley/Boyle Heights/Wilmington area) to pick up the trees, 3. Getting one volunteer/25 trees to prune, 4. Find a location that will allow us to store the trees prior to distribution. The program runs between Jan 6-Jan 31.

Nika Allahverdi will ask Principal Garcia if we could combine this program with the Electronic Waste Collection Drive and battery collection drive now planned at Hamilton on Saturday, January 23

Mrs. Laramay will explore the possibility of our being allowed to store the trees overnight at the school on Friday, January 22nd.

Paula Waxman will check with Tree People to make certain Soronc qualifies as a tree distributor. She will also get provisional approval from Soronc Board to pay for renting a truck should we have a large number of orders from the community

III. **Committee Reports**

SAFE:

Nika Allahverdi reported that the club presidents have decided to spilt the club into small committees to encourage student participation and involvement. There will be four committees: a recycling committee, which will find weekly recycling tips and facts; a publication committee, a creative group which will update the Hamilton website, make school announcements, and create posters publicizing the wet-and-dry system; a garden committee, which will compost and research plant information for the Hami Garden; and a Community Service/Events Committee, which will plan and organize events such as the Sewer Screens Project and the E-Waste/ Battery Drive Project.

- a. **Sewer Screens:** A community member reported that there are no screens on the curbside sewer drains on either side of Hamilton. S.AF.E. will research the problem and request that sewer screens be placed at Cattaraugus and Robertson and Kincardine and Robertson. Mark Davis of Koretz's office can help facilitate the request.
- b. **E-Waste/Battery Drive:** Club SAFE will organize an E-Waste/Battery Drive on January 23, 2010. The club has gotten Principal Garcia's permission to utilize the school. Allahverdi will ask Principal Garcia's permission to stage the fruit tree give away program at same time.
- c. **Hami Garden:** The Green Team would like to establish a "Friends of Hami Garden" support group.

Allahverdi will supply names of possible members.



SORO FESTIVAL

a. Goodie Bag Give Away Program;

Paula will be emailing Green Team members. She would like each member to be in charge of asking one company if they would contribute an eco friendly item to our community give away program.

Mrs. Laramay volunteered to research compostable bags made in the U.S.

b. Rain Barrel/ Compost Bin Sale:

Larry Hess will research the Rain Capture Barrels sold by the Environmental Charter High School. These could be sold at a festival booth.

Paula Waxman will make arrangements to take orders for city compost bins. Have sample bins available and experts to give tutorials.

c. Zero-Waste Festival:

Compostable Utensils and Recyclables Pick Up: Phyllis Rothman reported that she and Paula have been talking to distributors of compostable food containers. The Green Team wants to encourage festival food vendors to use only compostable food containers. Phyllis is also researching how to dispose of all recycled material generated by the festival. She contacted our local Farmers Market and will be contacting the Hollywood Farmers Market as well. Saran Kirschbaum mentioned that the City Bureau of Sanitation has a specific events service that picks up festival waste. Here is their link:

http://www.lacity.org/SAN/solid_resources/pdfs/publication/SERPBrochP4.pdf

Paula told Phyllis that she received an email from Mar Vista's Green Team. Sherri Akers said that they were able to compost and recycle their Wise Water Expo but it is a smaller event than the Soro Festival. They borrowed bins from their Farmers Market .

EDUCATION

Paula Waxman is researching tours of landfills, recycling facilities, and waste water facilities for both the community and for students attending Shenandoah, Castle Heights, Canfield, and Hamilton. She will be contacting schools directly and propose dates and times for a tour for the Soronc neighbors at the next meeting.

CITY BEAUTIFICATION

a. Residential Tree Planting and Beautification Program;

The research has been completed on Soro "zones" and the streets. In each zone in need trees has been identified.

Larry Hess was chosen by the Green Team to revisit areas proposed by Steve Coker, Paula Waxman and Elisa Lionelli and decide which zone is in most need of trees.

b. South Robertson Tree Planting and Beautification Program.

Larry Hess reported that the original plan was to augment the trees planted on Robertson with additional trees of the same kind. However, because 4 of these trees blew over in the last wind storm, there is concern that these trees are not sturdy enough. Larry will be having new discussions with Councilman Koretz's office to make certain that the correct trees are planted along Robertson Blvd.

FYI: The Latest directive from the city: All unused medicines should be taken to your local Hazardous Waste Site. Do not dispose of medicines in curbside bins. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.