



Green Team Committee Minutes

Wednesday, December 9th, 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, Larry Hess, Barry Levine, Karen Laramay, Bette Billet, Nika Allahverdi, Caitlin Lowe, Julie Weise

II. **General Public Comments**

- A. **BACKPACKS FOR THE HOMELESS:** Assembly Speaker Karen Bass's office is collecting backpacks for the homeless. Paula Waxman will send out an email blast to the neighbors with instructions on how we can participate.
- B. **A DAY WITHOUT BAGS:** Thursday, Dec. 17th Heal the Bay is conducting its 3rd annual "Day Without (plastic) Bag" event. Each year Californians discard into the environment 600 plastic bags per second (one million bags per minute worldwide). It is becoming an environmental catastrophe. Go online to find out how, and where you can participate.

III. **Committee Reports**

A. **HAMILTON HIGH SCHOOL S.A.F.E. CLUB** : Nika Allahverdi

- a. **E-Waste/Battery Drive/Fruit Tree Distribution** Jan. 23, 2010, hours 10-2, location Hamilton High School in the front parking lot: Posters will announce the drive, emails will be sent to Hami community and Soro outreach, students will be asked to volunteer to work. Easy Waste has been contracted to dispose of the electronic waste collected. This organization disposes of electronic waste locally, does not ship overseas. Batteries will go to Robertson Library. Ends of batteries must be taped.
- b. **Sewer Screens:** inspection not done yet.
- c. **Recycling Ad Campaign:** Will be making public announcements at school called the "Weekly Guilt Trip" advertising the recycling program. Another name considered is the "Weekly Flush"
- d. **Hami Garden:** compost will be collected once or twice a week.
- e. **Hamilton Cafeteria Recycled Utensils Study,** Dina Kraemer. Kraemer had another commitment. Could not make meeting.

B. FRIENDS OF HAMI GARDEN: Larry Hess announced that we have found Erin Amini, a community gardener with experience working with schools to manage the Hami Garden. She will be introduced at next week's meeting and to Hamilton High School's garden and environment clubs.

C. SORO FESTIVAL: Soro Inc. will begin meeting in January to discuss and plan for the 2010 Soro Festival, to be held on June 6th. We will propose making the festival a "green" one.

- a. **Goodie Bag Assignments:**
 - i. **Compostable bags (made in US):** Mrs. Laramay
 - ii. **Chico bags:** Paula Waxman
 - iii. **Refrigerator food covers:** Paula Waxman
 - iv. **Book bags from recycled material from Helios House:** Paula Waxman
- b. **Recycling Festival Trash:** Phyllis Rothman will present findings next meeting.

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- c. Compostible Food Service Containers-Paula
- d. Rain Barrel Sale: Larry Hess
- e. Compost Bin Sale: Paula Waxman

D. EDUCATION: Tours of Landfills, Recycling Centers, Water Treatment Plants- Paula Waxman reported that she called both city and county facilities. The county facility was the most practical because they have landfill and recycling centers on same grounds, but they do not like to take LA City School Students, because LA City has their own facilities. We will try to get bus funding from Vons, Assembly Offices, Mark Ridley Thomas, Zev Yaroslovsky. The suggestion was made that we offer to name the program after the donor.

E. CITY BEAUTIFICATION:

- a. South Robertson Tree Planting Program, Larry Hess reported that he has met with Paul Koretz's office and the Conservation Corps. He has located new spots for trees and discussed with these agencies tree types and sizes to be planted. Although the trees currently planted along Robertson may not be ideal in terms of size and root depth, it would be too expensive to go with different types of trees. Planting mature trees in the new spaces also may be too expensive. These discussions are ongoing.
- b. Volunteers, Julie Weise's Organization, SHTIBL Minyan has volunteered to help us on an ad hoc basis with activities that help the community. Please contact her especially if the activity falls on a Sunday. The organization's website is SHTIBL.com.