

Sustainability Committee Minutes

Wednesday, July 22, 2015

Call to Order at 8:05, Present: Liz Amsden, Margarito Martinez, Linda Phelps, Harry (friend of Mike's)

No public comments

1. Motion to approve the agenda. (Approved with Item 2 tabled to next meeting)
2. TABLED: Motion to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2015, May 27, 2015 & June 24, 2015 committee meetings – request made to have committee/minutes posted to HHPNC website
3. Discussion: Partnering with CD 1 and/or CD 14 on toxic waste collection as a one-time or on-going program. Linda feels we need a local event since the drop off under the 5 freeway is too far to go. Liz had spoken to Martin Schlageter, Councilmember Huizar's Policy Director, today who said he would look into a one-time event, schools sometimes do, but last one was limited to certain items and not well-publicized. Thought a semi-annual hazardous waste home pick-up would be a good idea but might take some time to gain traction/get funding at City level.
4. Discussion: Updating recycling lists and getting them out to residents. Los Angeles has the highest recycling of 10 largest cities 76%, but still does not include condos and apartments over 4 units. Latter needs to be addressed. There are lists on blue and green bins but people need access to the info in their homes and easily accessible such as labels in kitchens, for their kitchen garbage cans and office paper recycling boxes. The City's recyclables sticker needs improvement – currently hard to understand complicated by being in both English and Spanish. Liz will call City's sanitation department to confirm what are the current dos and don'ts for what can be placed in the blue & green bins to be posted to website suggesting stakeholders print them out and post them where they are most useful along with a list of recycling centers and other suggestions. Liz will also call to see if any of the new garbage containers being set out by Councilmember Huizar's office will be for recycling and, if so, if there are clear lists on them.
5. Discussion: Educating stakeholders (and requesting city departments focus on using) CA native plants to protect our native insects and birds. Liz will send lists and/or links to lists to SuzAnn to post on the HHPNC website. Mike suggested contacting the Audubon Society at Debs Park to see how we can work together on this.
6. Discussion: Other incentives for sustainable living - people to come to the next meeting with ideas – can include closing curtains day to reduce heat build-up in summer and at night to reduce heat loss in winter; cute prompt to remind people to bring their own bags shopping; ideas to address littering in high use areas, pet owner obligations, water conservation, etc..
7. From previous meeting: Discussion on livability issues for the homeless: The Right To Rest Act to benefit homeless stakeholders.
8. From previous meeting: Discussion: Mike talked about opposing a recent change to an ordinance regarding property left on public streets and police seizure enforcement. Recently policy changed from 72 hour notice to 24 hours for seizure/destruction of property of the homeless; up to individual police on whether to enforce. HHPNC recently approved a letter calling on the City to declare the state of homelessness and affordable housing in Los Angeles an emergency.
9. New business – Monica handed off some info on the 710 extension and sell off of properties that may not be needed, will refer to Land Use since they have people already addressing it. See info at the end of the minutes if people wish to submit comments on either issue.
10. Adjournment at 7:43 PM