

## Minutes

### AB 939 LOCAL TASK FORCE REGULAR MEETING Thursday, April 14, 2022 Public Zoom Video Meeting and Call-in Option

#### I. Welcome & Introductions

Meeting called to order at 1:30

Joey Hejnowicz, Zero Waste Coordinator - City of Santa Rosa  
Jennifer Lyle, Sonoma County  
Sunny Galbraith – 350 Sonoma County  
Xinci Tan – Zero Waste Sonoma  
Alyssa Messer – 3rd District Rep  
Max Bridges- League of Women Voters  
Liz Bortolotto – Chair  
Stu Clark – 4th District Rep  
Brandon Hart – TPW – Integrated Waste  
Glen Morelli – TPW – Integrated Waste  
Terry Taylor - We Act  
Annie S- Oliver's Market  
Ellen Hathaway- Sierra Club Redwood Chapter  
Sloane Pagal- Zero Waste Sonoma  
Greg Carr – 1<sup>st</sup> District  
Michael Anderson- Marketing and Recycling Historian  
Dan Nobel- Association of Compost Producers  
Tasha Wright- City of Santa Rosa (Water Dept)

#### II. Approval of draft minutes from December 9, 2021 meeting

Passed unanimously; those that were not in attendance abstained.

#### III. SB 1383 (Local Assistance Grant, Compost Events, etc), Xinci Tan

- Compost/Rebate Program
  - Do not want the city to compete with Farmer's for compost in Sonoma County
  - Way to satisfy requirement- someone can buy compost on the city's behalf.
  - 10% rebate for those who purchase cubic yards per year.
  - Agreement is short and 3 pages- contract would need to be established before buying the compost.
  - Claims can be submitted through ZWS site (30 cubic yards purchased minimum)
  - Participating businesses need to send W-9 to Zero Waste Sonoma in order to be reimbursed
- Program officially started in April
- Flyer with QR code to be sent

#### IV. Zero Waste Week, Sloane Pagal

- Zero waste week will be in the last week of July (7/24-7/30).
- Symposium is 7/29
  - Open to the public but geared toward practitioners in the community
  - We will have two keynote speakers that are still being confirmed
- Collaboration and scheduling events with partners- movie screenings, trash and fashion show, compost training, bike repair workshop, neighborhood cleanups, canning/preserving class(es), clothing swaps, produce exchange, more to be determined
  - About 20 events confirmed so far
- If interested in organizing events in the community please reach out to [sloane.pagal@sonoma-county.org](mailto:sloane.pagal@sonoma-county.org)

#### V. Infrastructure Fund Subcommittee Update, Terry Taylor

- Developed in February 2022
- Read purpose of ad-hoc committee for LTF feedback and approval
- Talked about local resources for grant writing approvals and local organizations to take advantage of opportunities coming down the line
- Searching for local grant writers, contacting members in the community, putting together a list of resources in the community, and a clearing house of funding opportunities

#### VI. Upcoming Event Announcement, Sunny Galbraith

- SRJC Climate Action Night via Zoom – Thursday, April 21
  - Flyer: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S1lrHSKDYa3Amik2Px06VCpGLXHdq6CaVtrxIHfJBHc/edit?usp=drivesdk>
- Apple Blossom Festival in Sebastopol April 23-24
  - Searching for volunteers
  - Flyer: [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zoV4oQPNDUV-M7Jlu8Z1CsRs2whzBCbr\\_BRos7QozOw/edit?usp=drivesdk](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1zoV4oQPNDUV-M7Jlu8Z1CsRs2whzBCbr_BRos7QozOw/edit?usp=drivesdk)

#### VII. SoCo Bioresource Management Collaborative, Dan Noble

- Soil amendments = healthy soil
- Holding first annual healthy soil summit to organize it with the top professionals in the state. Held on May 3rd.
  - Numerous organizations and collaborators will be presenting and coming together to work together.
  - Working on the state and local level.
  - UCANIR- numerous healthy soil programs
  - Brought City of LA to share strategies with all cities in CA to build healthy soil in their jurisdiction.
  - Question from Sloane – what does this strategy look like as resources go out of county?
  - Answer: to help the whole city comply with SB 1383. Whole goal is to keep the organics local. Soil management is aligned with water management.

- Zero food print- now co-chairing ACP Marketing Group. They are interested in connecting municipalities with farmers through the composters. They developed a composter website. There is a group that used to be called the Bay Friendly Landscape coalition
  - Question: is there targeted outreach to Spanish speaking landscapers?
  - Answer: yes, many of the orgs are bilingual in order to reach out
  - Question: are there any conversations on the part of healthy soils people about state funded Round-Up applications?
  - Answer: not at that level. First trying to bring biological testing into certified compost. One of the things happening in biofertilizers is to promote in lieu of chemical fertilizers.

## VIII. Discussion of Potential Model Ordinance, Sloane Pagal

- Travis Wagner, the sustainability coordinator for the City of Sonoma brought up the idea of jurisdictions adopting more stringent local carryout bag ordinances that effectively prohibit all plastic bags from being provided at retail check out.
- Option to update the countywide ordinance that would then apply in all jurisdictions
  - The current language is similar to the state bag ban but no exception for EBT/WIC/SNAP customers who still have to pay for a bag at checkout
  - Other states like VT and NJ have implemented more stringent bag bans that require all bags provided to carry a fee and be composed of recycled content paper
- Group discussion on this proposal
  - Stu: how big of an effort was it when the county originally passed this ordinance? Was county passed before state? Would we run into any issues if we were to amend the county ordinance?
  - Answer: Sonoma County adopted the ordinance before it was voted in at the state level. We may need to elevate the other questions to legal council.
  - Alyssa: efficacy of thick plastic bag recycling programs? Are ordinance in place about using recycled paper for the paper bag since that's in intensive resource?
  - Answer: We have been told by film industry that there is a market for collecting those bags, but it's difficult to know where they go once those collection bins are emptied. The ordinance does require minimum 40% post consumer recycled content paper bags
  - Liz: Costco is a disruptor here and has been using the boxes for ages, or BYO bag.
  - The state bill that required stores to offer bag recycling opportunities has lapsed, and AB 2026 that is currently in the legislatures is trying to address that.
- Formation of an ad-hoc group to study feasibility of amendment to the carryout bag ordinance (not just the county bag ban, but what did the LITF recommend to the county in 2014; food take out use of plastic bags [may need to consult with lawyers/attorneys];)
  - Alyssa, Liz, Sloane, and Annie are interested
  - Motion to form the group – Liz Bortolotto
  - Motion Seconded by Dan Noble
  - Motion passed

## IX. Upcoming Tour – Soil Carbon Management Company, Liz Bortolotto

- Friday 4/22 at 10:00 AM

## X. Adopt a Roadway, Liz Bortolotto

- We have a piece of road off Stony Point
- The first cleanup is the most work, and every cleanup after that is easier

## XI. Public Comments

Natalie Tim- read by Liz: we need garbage cans to be reduced as we are putting most of the waste in compost bin. Main concern is dryer lint- doubt if it is a good idea to put microplastic anywhere except a landfill. Please escalate these concerns to Recology.

- There are statewide efforts to require filters to go on dryers to capture microplastics. It's a huge source of microplastic particles in air and water. Liz to answer back.

## XII. Member Announcements

- Sloane: Please join us for the first Fix-it Clinic and Reuse Fair on Saturday, May 14, 2022 from 11AM – 3PM at the TekTailor parking lot off Santa Rosa Ave. There will be repair help for clothing/textiles, bikes, and lamps, as well as the Children's Museum On the Go Bus, Upcycled Art, a Clothing Swap, and free food.

## XIII. Next Regular Meeting Date – June 9, 2022

## XIV. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 pm.