

City of Calistoga Green Committee Agenda Item Summary

DATE

AGENDA ITEM

RECOMMENDATION

MEMBERS ABSENT FROM JUNE 7, 2013 MEETING

July 12, 2013

4.A. - Draft Minutes for June 7, 2013 meeting

Approve minutes with any necessary changes

None

MINUTES CALISTOGA GREEN COMMITTEE

June 7, 2013

1. ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Committee Chair Karen Chang, Committee Members Janice Stenger, Heidi Tice. Staff members present: Planning and Building Director Lynn Goldberg. Also in attendance: Dave Briggs, Napa County Public Works Recycling and Waste Reduction

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was unanimously adopted as presented.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion regarding potential plastic bag ban

Planning Director Goldberg advised the Committee that the latest state legislation to ban single-use plastic bags had been unsuccessful and that the City and County of Napa have started work on what could ultimately be a countywide ordinance. Given Calistoga's limited staff and financial resources, it is recommended that staff participate in this process.

Committee Chair Chang believes that a plastic bag ban would signify the City's commitment to minimizing litter and encouraging reusable bags. She would also like to reduce the use of Styrofoam containers.

Committee Member Stenger suggested that local merchants and restaurant owners be approached about voluntarily discontinuing the use of plastic bags. Since Calistoga is a small community, this approach might be just as effective as an ordinance. A notice discouraging the use of plastic bags could also be given to new businesses when they receive a building permit or license.

Dave Briggs reported that the efforts of Napa Valley CanDo to reduce the use of single-use plastic bags through education had not been very successful, and that over 70 California jurisdictions have banned them. He suggested that information from CanDo be included with the letter to educate the recipients above the reasons for discontinuing plastic bag use. The Committee could get reusable bags from Upper Valley Disposal & Recycling to hand out or give to business owners.

Committee Chair Chang suggested that the reusable bags could be decorated with art work from the Art Council or local artist Carlo Marchioni.

example, is pursuing food composting for food service businesses. He suggests that the plan include goals and measures that promote the City's active participation in the Upper Valley Waste Management Agency to maximize the diversion of organic and food waste and promote the convenient collection of bulk materials.

Committee Member Stenger would like to see more public education about what can be recycled, presented in a simple manner through the local television station or on bulletin boards. She believes that Objective T-2 should be expanded to include promoting the hiring of local residents by local businesses in order to reduce vehicle trips. Ms. Goldberg explained that she had not included such a measure in the draft because it would be difficult for the City to promote it, and there are many factors that are weighed by a prospective employer in hiring an employee. Whether the candidate was a local resident would probably not be an important one.

Discussion of the draft CAP actions was continued to the next Committee meeting.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMMENTS AND REQUESTS

None

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned to Friday, July 12, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. to accommodate the Fourth of July holiday.

Lynn Goldberg Planning & Building Director