

ENVIRONMENT AND RECYCLING AD HOC COMMITTEE EARTH DAY MEETING REPORT

January 18, 2019/6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Cedar Hill Ranch – Earth Day Meeting of Environment and Recycling Ad Hoc Committee Report

Participants:

Primary Lead: Donna Lewis

Participants: Scott Berger, Ann Collins, Joyce Conner, Mike Conner, Catherine Johnson, Larry Kocian, Kathy Lester, Donna Lewis, and Guests (Suzy and Tom Coose)

Report:

It was decided that Donna Lewis would preside over all meetings, at least through Earth Day, which will be celebrated by an event at the Rockdale Community Center, 109 N. Main, on Saturday, April 20, 10 am – 2 pm.

The participants then discussed possible tables:

1. **Plastics and What Their Recycling Numbers Mean** (trifold with objects) - Mike Conner
2. **Children's activity table**, making things or doing projects (Cathy will help with ideas) – Joyce Conner
3. **Tote bag give-away**; Joyce suggested having a poster with pictures showing kids what they could do with their tote bags once taken home. Lisa Milewski has recommended that the instructions to make more t-shirt totes be placed in each tote. [post meeting note: children will want to choose their tote – how can we display them?] Need member to man table.
4. **Promoting our Pollinators** – Larry Kocian (his 2018 Earth Day pollinator posters); Help with habitat = Kathy Lester suggested giving away pollinator friendly native plants (i.e., zinnias, mistflower) in egg shell containers [note: at next meeting Kathy will show sample of egg shell planter and ask members to save them for Earth Day]; We need to know who can supply the seeds. Larry will look into getting seeds for seed planters and also for possible seed bombs.
5. **Girl and Boy Scout, and School Participation** – Larry is going to check on possibility of teacher doing project in classroom and then bringing projects to our hall for display; maybe teacher could have a contest or the newspaper could hold the contest; we would like a contact for the scouts to see whether we can get them to make and man a table. This could be multiple tables.
6. **What to do with it now?** – Cathy has already done a lot of work contacting organizations and agencies (such as National Defense Resource Council, Lucky Fiji) for information, posters, and pamphlets.
7. **What to do with it now?** Cathy and Rosie will have two tables, one for literature and the other for ideas. [note: use this instead of that; reuse, recycle]
8. **Take Care of Texas** – [post meeting note: Lisa Milewski emailed that she would be happy to set up a table from that organization like she did last year]
9. **Composting** – [post meeting note: Larry is contacting Taylor Garden Club to see if they will man a table.
10. **TreeFolks** – [post meeting note: Joyce has contacted TreeFolks in Bastrop about having a table and perhaps giving away Loblolly saplings. Also, about giving a talk on reforestation and their organization at one of our monthly meetings.]
11. **What is Earth Day?** and **Honeybee** boards and handouts – [post meeting note: Cathy has offered members to man a table with either or both]

Other items discussed:

Joyce mentioned that they had just planted 60 Loblolly pines at Cedar Hill Ranch and she could see if **TreeFolks** were interested in having a table and donating some loblollies with Lost Pines DNA to Milam County at Earth Day. If not able to attend but could donate plants, Joyce could handle bringing them to the event. This is a possible **Table 12**.

Joyce will email Don and ask who brought the list of homemade cleaners and recipes that were at one of our recent meetings. This is a possible **Table 13**. [post note - Nancy Adcock brought these. Joyce is emailing source to see whether ideas can be mass produced for distribution.]

Larry, Cathy, Rosie – will do advertising [post note – should include flyers for post offices, churches, libraries; articles in newspapers; articles online] Kathy Lester suggested that newspaper articles could be written about recycling and then tell about the Earth Day tables.

Ann Collins - Have a sample bee box (providing habitat table); can one be made that day by participants?

Future Speakers for the membership - Donna mentioned no-tillage speaker she saw in Acres magazine. Also, Marty Erwin (spelling?) about restoration of native plants.

Donna and Cathy will bring some kits that they were given at the Annual Meeting to show members to encourage them to be used at events.

[Post Note: Gulf Coast Chapter is interested in knowing about our efforts regarding recycling. Donna is communicating with them.]

This volunteer activity is to be recorded in VMS under **Community Outreach: Indirect**; Description – 2019 Earth Day preparation meeting. You can count 2 hrs for the meeting, plus preparation time, plus travel time. (Any follow-up activities of this meeting should be entered on the day performed under **Community Outreach: Indirect** with description of Earth Day activity.) Additionally, you may count 1 hr. under **Administrative: Hostess** if you brought food.

Next meeting is set to be **Saturday, March 2, 11-1 pm, at Catherine Johnson's house**, 110 Champions Drive, Rockdale (Home Phone=512-446-3885).