**NACA MONTHLY MEETING**

Thursday April 18, 2019

North Austin Community Recreation Center

1000 West Rundberg Lane

**Introductions:**

Melinda Schiera called the meeting to order at 7:02pm

**General Announcements**

The March meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Brian LaCour stated at the end of March there are $10,630.10 in the Beautification Fund which includes the funds from the investment account; $1,009.77 in the General Fund and we currently have 138 members. Brian stated all the major expenses for the year have been paid for and the remaining expense is for the newsletter.

**Membership Recruitment Drive Update:** John stated the there are two remaining subsectors that need to be completed. Davi Brown said they are solicitating for business memberships for $50 which includes recognition in the newsletter. She also asks business members if they will offer a discount to NACA members if they show their NACA membership card.

**City of Austin Residential Single Stream Recycling Review: Matt Myers**

Matt reviewed what is generally acceptable in the City of Austin’s residential single stream recycling program including; cardboard, boxboard, core rolls; aluminum cans, steel foods cans, glass bottles and jars and plastic #1 PET soda bottles, #2 HDPE containers and jugs and plastic bottles, jugs and containers.

He also discussed the reasons why the following items are unacceptable. Plastic shopping bags, potato chip bags, stretch film and bubble wrap will get caught in the coarse screening process at the single stream sort facility. Bulk Styrofoam will crumble during the coarse screening process and the small pieces can’t be recovered. Glass cookware is not acceptable because it won’t melt at the temperature as regular glass bottles and jars. Hardcover books must have the hardcover removed before being placed in your bin. Milk and juice cartons are water resistant and won’t break down within five minutes like regular papers or fiber containers. Metal cans and plastic jugs must be rinsed of food residue so it does not contaminate the paper grades.

He also discussed the current market dynamics for recyclable material. China historically has been a large consumer of mixed paper and cardboard from the USA. They were also the market of choice for the bales of mixed rigid plastics #3-7. Due to the slowdown in their industrialization and demand for material to be 99% free of trash contamination, finding an end user for this material has become more challenging. For paper and cardboard if the export demand for this material is not active, then more is shipped to domestic mills. When their inventories are full, the mills drop the price and cut off orders from some small recycling facilities.

He stated that HEB has a collection bin for used plastic bags. They send these back to their central distribution warehouse where the bags are baled and sent to a recycling facility for processing. Red Rock Recycling in Austin accepts clear or colored LDPE #4 bags with no tape or labels. Red Rock pelletizes these bags and ships truckload quantities to an end user who will melt the pellets and make more bags. They can also be processing into plastic fencing, furniture and parking stops.

**The meeting was adjourned at 8:06pm**