



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

CALL TO ORDER – 6:31 PM

ROLL CALL

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449 – none

Committee members present: Becker, Calmes, Ebel, Nunan, Rogers, Salmon

Committee members absent: Fieldman

Staff members present: Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Special Assistant – Sustainability, Regan

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Salmon moved to adopt the agenda and Nunan seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Calmes: Parks & Rec secret garden tour on June 6, pre-register and donations encouraged to Brisbane Lions Club
- Ebel: Found some old carbon footprint fliers for Day in the Park, will give to Etherton

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- B. Minutes of April 26, 2023 – Salmon moved to approve the minutes and Nunan seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- C. Quarry Development update – Community Development Department has deemed the application incomplete. Developer needs to submit a new application, in the interim, more internal discussion on what that process will look like. No information about why the application was deemed incomplete, Etherton will find out whether there will be a new NOP.

NEW BUSINESS

- D. Brisbane Acres Vegetation Management Plan Review

New qualified consultant has been identified, Hanford ARC. City guided them on what had been done in the past. See attached document in the agenda packet for scope summary.

Objection from Salmon about the terminology “Mountain Watch stewardship areas”, note that local volunteers maintain social trails, not San Bruno Mountain Watch.

Becker asks if city can incentivize the use of electric rather than fossil-fuel powered tools.

Nunan moves to accept proposal, Rogers seconds. Motion approved unanimously.

E. OSEC Comments on Baylands EIR Notice of Preparation

Draft OSEC comments with tracked changes are available in the packet for this meeting, these comments must be submitted tomorrow. The committee discussed modifications and concerns related to how transportation impacts will be evaluated and the definition for “open space.”

Nunan moves to accept comments with proposed changes, Salmon seconds. Motion approved unanimously.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton:

- Park & Ride EV charging project: PG&E is working on permits and scheduling (2 months out)
- PCE is considering incentive program for municipal facilities, pool electrification project is looking more promising than it has been in a while
- Site visit from PCE to the library several months ago to participate in second round of bulk solar and storage procurement program. Awaiting news on details.

Regan:

- Building Efficiency Program is running smoothly; only 25% have not submitted their 2022 annual benchmarking report. Note that we achieved 100% compliance last year, so we are in contact with all buildings on our roster.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS * = ad hoc

- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – habitat restoration event tentatively scheduled for July 22nd? Etherton needs to circle back with Ariel. Possibility to use this event as an opportunity to clear the concrete channel – event subcommittee to discuss.
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, Rogers) – no update
- Baylands Subcommittee (Rogers) – no update
- *Building Decarbonization (Becker, Ebel, Fieldman) – waiting for legal memo expected soon, and Berkeley’s deadline to request an en banc hearing is also the end of the month. That will help determine our path forward. Last two RICAPS (county-wide climate action planning) meetings have discussed grid preparedness for electrification. In general: we shouldn’t wait to electrify until the grid is “ready”. Multiple agencies are planning for high levels of electrification and we should be utilizing new capacity as it is built.
- *Open Space Plan Update (Calmes, Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser to share document

- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Nunan, Calmes) – many pollywogs! Kinser shared an update on the resurfacing project, the grant timeline, and additional costs from flooding. Request from subcommittee that the trail portion that abuts frog habitat be avoided until the end of the construction period.
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Becker, Fieldman, Nunan) – ordinance has been drafted, what are next steps? Kinser recommends checking in with council liaisons.
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (Becker, Ebel, Salmon) – next meeting is June 7. Etherton needs to get answers on streetlighting, tried to reach out to lighting consultant, no response but will follow up.
- *Tree Issues (Calmes, Ebel, Salmon) – no update, but Calmes and others concerned about need for pruning. Kinser: Weed abatement is underway to allow street sweeping and pedestrian passage, this gets done on city property before end of June. Pruning w/weed abatement is generally not done to meet aesthetic standards. Recommend giving list of affected trees in a single service request (SR) rather than an SR for every individual tree.
- *Sierra Point Park Planning (Ebel) – no update
- *Lipman Science Fair Judging (Ebel, Rogers) – inactive

CALENDAR ITEMS – Possibility to use a habitat restoration event as an opportunity to clear the concrete channel (location: south leg of Crocker Trail east of South Hill) – event subcommittee to discuss.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS –

- Becker: Father’s day is a fantastic occasion to give a gift certificate to your favorite plant nursery
- Salmon: no recycled arts/crafts for Day in the Park, think of something to replace it
- Ebel: suggests transportation survey for Day in the Park (Kinser: opportunity to pair with Complete Streets?)

NEXT MEETING: June 28, 2023

ADJOURNMENT – 7:41 PM