



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. • Virtual Meeting

MEETING SETUP AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO ORDER – 6:34 PM

ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Becker, Calmes, Ebel, Fieldman, Nunes, Rogers, Salmon

Staff members present: Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Sustainability Assistant, Regan; Senior Planner, Ayres; Admin. Management Analyst, Ibarra; Public Works Director, Breault; City Manager, Holstine

City Council Liaisons present: Coleen Mackin, Terry O’Connell

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Becker moved to adopt the agenda and Ebel seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously by roll call vote.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Fieldman: SB 1173 on state pension fund divestment has been reintroduced as SB 252. Asking committee to again recommend that city pass a resolution to support.

ORAL/WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS – Acknowledgement of climate emergency letter from Biden Administration

OLD BUSINESS

- **Dark Skies Certification**

Feedback from both liaisons: express concern about increasing light pollution driven by low powered (and thus low cost) lights. Recommend a phased-in approach, with new commercial coming into compliance first and existing residential coming into compliance last.

Feedback from Coleen Mackin: speed is definitely a priority, before installation of new lighting. Community buy-in should have a plan with some regular outreach (more than a tabling event & a Star article); anticipate that people will be concerned about safety with reduced lighting. Recommend exempting or giving special attention to the Brisbane Stars.

Feedback from Terry O’Connell: middle of the road approach seems like it will be most prudent. Hope that OSEC can come up with something with staff to propose to Council within the next months.

Consensus: move forward with staff-drafted ordinance which will be customized to the Brisbane context. This draft was last shared with the dark skies subcommittee on 12/19.

- **2023 OSEC Work Plan**

Divided into sections: 1) priority, 2) routine/ongoing, 3) long-term policy issues to be addressed if/when they arise, 4) requested item (provide input on Quarry Development)

Discussion on requested item, including history of OSEC participation regarding the Baylands development. City Manager Holstine provided an update on the status of the Quarry Development, EIR has been scoped but a draft version will be available in a few months for public comment. Council Liaison O'Connell recommends that the rest of the Council weigh in on whether OSEC as a committee should be allowed to provide input.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – Nunan moves to adopt the minutes, Salmon seconds. Adopted by roll call vote with Nunan abstaining.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton: EV charger construction is completed at City Hall, just awaiting certification and activation from Charge. Mission Blue EV chargers should be complete by end of this week or next, also has received heat pump water heater, the latest of 4 that have been installed at no cost to the city. Notices of violation and citations were sent out regarding SB 1383 mandatory organics collection. SSF Scavenger is also "lid-flipping" to ensure that waste is sorted appropriately.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION * = ad hoc

- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – Recommend that Old Ranch trail clean-up not be handled during a Volunteer Day, given presence of bulky trash. In communication with SM County Parks Dept. about this, as trail is within their jurisdiction. Planting Day on Feb 9 was very nice! About 20 people. Next habitat event is April 22 (Earth Day)! Day in the Park planning is underway.
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, **Rogers**) – Next library display will be on waste, SB 1383
- Baylands Subcommittee (Rogers) – no updates
- *Building Decarbonization (Becker, Ebel, Fieldman) – no updates
- *Open Space Plan Update (Calmes, Rogers, Salmon) – review plan and find a new area to focus on. Will schedule a meeting without staff (Kinser).
- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Nunan, Calmes) –
 - on Cypress Lane, need debris removed and pipe cleared/augured which will improve drainage and allow wildflower planting. Kinser recommends submitting a service request.
 - Resource Conservation District is in contact with Kinser, she will advise next steps
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Becker, Fieldman, Nunan) – need to schedule a meeting to finalize draft ordinance
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (Becker, **Ebel**, Salmon) – meeting to be scheduled within the month, probably a Wednesday evening
- *Tree Issues (Calmes, Ebel, Salmon) – requested a meeting be scheduled to regroup
- *Sierra Point Park Planning (Ebel) – Salmon recommends that OSEC members attend the March 2nd Council meeting
- *Lipman Science Fair Judging (Ebel, **Rogers**) – had the fair, Rogers attended Judges night and selected the OSEC winners. Have not finalized certificates yet, Etherton or Regan can help.

CALENDAR ITEMS – Etherton briefly reviewed the calendar

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS – none.

NEXT MEETING: March 22 (in person). Calmes and Nunan noted they will be absent.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:31 PM