



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 23, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. • Virtual Meeting

MEETING SETUP AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO ORDER – 6:35 PM

ROLL CALL & WELCOME NEW MEMBER

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

Staff members present: Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Sustainability Manager, Etherton; GIS Manager, Sage; Public Works Director, Breault; PW Deputy Director – Utilities, Flanagan (through item B)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS – none.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Minutes of January 26, 2022 – Ebel asked to correct the minutes to note that a single council member, not council members, stated the Tree Committee was an overreach. Salmon asked for a correction that her comments about the invasive species ordinance represented the committee's desires not just her own. Rogers moved to approve the amended minutes, Calmes seconded; the motion was adopted with Becker abstaining.

NEW BUSINESS

- B. Drought update – Jerry Flanagan, PW Deputy Director – Utilities

Discussion included precipitation and reservoir statistics, drought declaration and restrictions, breakdown of the water use in the city and low per capita residential water usage compared to other water districts in the region, focus on commercial and landscape water use, coordinating to ensure Building Efficiency Program participants were aware of the opportunity to participate in the Waterfluence program, rebates available for high-efficiency toilets and rain barrels, and educational programs in partnership with BAWSCA.

Salmon encouraged continuation of the deep root watering program, extension of the rain barrel program to commercial, and grey-water use in city facilities. Rogers expressed thanks for the high-efficiency toilet program, which she participated in and said was great and very beneficial. Becker encouraged folks to consider the rain barrels

as “condensation barrels” due to the local climate, and consideration of a city program for in-line on-demand water recirculation pump incentives, which Nunan seconded. Ebel encouraged more messaging about the drought rules in city communications.

- C. Cal-IPC Membership or Symposium – Kinser asked about putting the limited budget resources either towards renewing the membership or attendance by one or two members at the annual symposium. Salmon moved and Nunan seconded that we renew the membership. Members asked to see the committee’s budget and expenditures.

STAFF UPDATES

Sage: shared that he has been promoted to GIS Manager with the City so he will no longer be directly involved with OSEC. Committee members thanked Sage for his contributions.

Kinser: Preparing RFQ for Vegetation Management work in Brisbane Acres using maps of prior areas addressed. Will get quotes from new bidders as On Point Land Management has closed.

Etherton:

- Making progress on heat pump water heaters for City Hall and the Pool with Willdan. Received confirmation that the pool project can utilize On Bill Financing; a number of steps remain, but if all goes according to plan the installation could begin in August with minimal disruptions to operations.
- Building Efficiency Program: a few more buildings have moved into compliance for 2020; we previously reported that 79% of buildings had complied and are now up to ~87%. Notifications for 2021 reporting should be going out in the next couple weeks.
- Disposable Foodware Amendment will be on the Council’s consent agenda for March 3; it will align with new state regulations and enforcement will be pushed back to October.
- Peninsula Clean Energy is recruiting for their Citizen’s Advisory Committee.
- Council reviewed accomplishments & work plan on Feb 3. Salmon insisted that the work plan be titled OSEC Work Plan rather than Sustainability Work Plan, and requested the invasive species ordinance item be updated to be broader than just the Brisbane Acres. It was decided to re-agendize the Work Plan discussion for next month.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS (*ad hoc)

- Climate Action Plan (Ebel, Fieldman) – Etherton would like to schedule a meeting with the RICAPS consultants on the forecasting progress. Ebel needs to meet in the evenings after 5:45; Etherton will follow up to schedule on a Mon – Wed.
- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – Etherton will confirm the Earth Day habitat event date with Mountain Watch.
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, Nunan, **Rogers**) – Fieldman asked and Etherton reported working with library staff to get the first display on dark skies ready. Rogers noted the signboard regarding film plastic recycling at the post office; Communications Manager Cheung had posted that and is also working on better signage for the bin.
- Baylands (Rogers) – no meeting.
- *Open Space Plan Update (Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser noted receiving a positive response from the liaisons and working to get it on the Council’s agenda.

- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Salmon, Calmes) – Rogers will work with Salmon and Calmes to begin drafting a proposal.
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Calmes, Salmon, Fieldman) – Salmon asked Kinser to send materials from previous meetings so the subcommittee members can begin organizing.
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (**Ebel**, Salmon) – Etherton reported that she is still awaiting Planning staff comments, she will follow up before next meeting. Fieldman reported requesting Brisbane Hardware to carry shields and limit the ultra-bright LEDs for sale.
- *Tree Issues (Calmes, Ebel, Salmon) – Kinser can set up a meeting.
- *Lipman Science Fair Judging (Ebel, **Rogers**) – Judging is underway; Rogers and Ebel are reviewing submissions and there are three times as many as before. Rogers will send Etherton names for certificates.
- Becker noted she has watched/listened to OSEC meetings for the last 18 months so is up to speed and ready to jump into subcommittees; we will agendize subcommittee reorganization for next month.

CALENDAR ITEMS – The group briefly reviewed the calendar.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS

- Noted a new team photo is needed.
- Salmon and Fieldman thanked former member Dykes for his contributions over the last four years, particularly on the CAP Subcommittee.
- Becker introduced herself: Brisbane resident for 1.5 years after looking for a home in town for nearly 4 years, aerospace engineer at NASA that travels a lot for work, lifelong environmentalist and pragmatic about capacity for some to take actions; proud OSEC exists and to be a part of it.

NEXT MEETING: March 23, 2022

ADJOURNMENT – 8:44 PM