



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 at 6:30 P.M. • Virtual Meeting

MEETING SETUP AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO ORDER – 6:34 PM

ROLL CALL

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

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salmon announced the Garden Show at the Community Center on August 27; Calmes added that contest submissions could be made at 11 and the event would open to the public at 1pm. Salmon announced the San Bruno Mountain Watch Pancake Breakfast and Plant Sale on Saturday Sept 11.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. Minutes of July 27, 2022 – Salmon noted a date correction, the Edge of the Wild screening is August 26 not 28. Salmon moved to approve the minutes, Nunan seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

- B. Building Efficiency Program update – Rachel Martinez Regan, Sustainability Intern
- Regan provided an update on BBEP, including unveiling the public disclosure dashboard which was recently created by GIS Manager Bob Sage and added to the program webpage (brisbaneca.org/bbep). At 3+ months past the reporting deadline 75% of buildings are in compliance and 14 buildings received a Notice of Violation. Regan also shared statistics on the extensive outreach and building representative support and noted that she will be continuing in a part time role with the City and working to prepare for the Beyond Benchmarking phase.
- C. Discussion on Public Comment to CAP Subcommittee from Anja Miller re: Solar Panels on the Library
- The committee discussed and agreed that actions which have a more direct impact on emissions reductions should be prioritized due to limited budgets,

though there was support for solar panels and battery storage at the library for resiliency purposes and as a visible signal to the community. The committee agreed the CAP Subcommittee should send an email response to Miller.

- D. Discussion on Public Comment to OSEC from Dana Dilworth re: Amending Waste Discharge Requirements for Bayfront Landfills
- Fieldman and Salmon provided some background on the issue. After brief discussion Fieldman moved the committee send a letter supporting Dilworth's inquiries, which Salmon seconded. Kinser clarified that the letter would need to be written and come back to OSEC for approval; Fieldman will draft.
- E. Recommending a letter encouraging a federal Climate Emergency Declaration
- Fieldman explained that the City has passed a Climate Emergency Declaration and while the Inflation Reduction Act has recently passed at the federal level, it is a spending bill and has some provisions for fossil fuels put in to allow passage and environmentalists still encourage a declaration.
 - Becker has reached out to the Center for Biological Diversity, which had created a report detailing what a declaration could allow, to find out what impact the Inflation Reduction Act has on their recommendation. The CAP subcommittee will draft a letter upon receiving that response to bring back to OSEC for recommendation.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton:

- Noted that OSEC members should have received instructions from the City Clerk and IT regarding setting up City emails which should be used for committee communications going forward. Members expressed concern about the rollout and were encouraged to contact the Clerk to set up a meeting to complete setup if needed. Send Etherton an email from the new account once you are set up so we can coordinate cutover.
- Reported that the City Hall Heat Pump Water Heater and EV charging projects on city properties recently submitted permit applications.
- The Brisbane Village EV Fast Charger has been inoperable for roughly 2 months, but ChargePoint just sent a quote for a part replacement which we are moving forward with.
- The Utility division recently submitted a grant application for Automated Meter Infrastructure which estimated the project would provide 9.45% reduction in total water demand and 20,386.6 kWh annual energy savings.
- Two updates from the San Mateo Resource Conservation District (RCD) whose board Etherton sits on: San Bruno Mountain Owl & Buckeye Canyons Habitat Enhancement Project will remove invasives, encroaching scrub and plant native and nectar plants. First Flush, an annual citizen science program to measure water quality during first significant rain of the season, is holding a volunteer training on Wed Sept 14th at 5:30.

Fieldman asked about the street tree watering program with water collected from pipe flushing. Kinser responded that the maintenance team leader is getting this set up; she later noted that he confirmed Davey Tree is set to start on August 30.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Climate Action Plan (Becker, Ebel, Fieldman) – Our recent meeting focused on the Climate Emergency letter and reach codes. Etherton reached out to planning and Peninsula Clean Energy for info before the next subcommittee meeting on Sept 13.
- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – Salmon reported on the subcommittees plans for Day in the Park and encouraged committee members to help out at the booth. Etherton will send a sign-up sheet with shifts and request if any additional materials are needed.
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, **Rogers**) – The library display on gardening was posted a couple weeks earlier. Etherton is coordinating with library staff to have a sign on the display crediting OSEC.
- *Open Space Plan Update (Calmes, Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser is working to bring the proposed update to Council in September.
- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Salmon, Calmes) – Rogers noted the subcommittee recently met and will be meeting on site with a consultant on Sept 12. Upon inquiry Kinser noted that the consultant is a staff biologist from the RCD. She also shared that City staff saw Paul Bouscal out at the site doing work and invited him to the meeting.
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Becker, Fieldman, Nunan) – subcommittee meeting without staff on Sept 9th
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (Becker, **Ebel**, Salmon) – Etherton will schedule a meeting
- *Tree Issues (Calmes, **Ebel**, Salmon) – Calmes reported the subcommittee met and she is working on a brochure to distribute at Day in the Park. Salmon added that she sent sample RFPs for an urban canopy report.
- Salmon noted the Liaisons to Council need to be updated with the new chair & vice chair
- There has been no activity on the Baylands subcommittee

CALENDAR ITEMS

- Etherton shared the Coastal Cleanup Day poster
- Salmon asked about scheduling a planting day; Etherton suggested January since December is very busy for most, and Fieldman noted a dry winter is expected so December may not be preferable for that reason
- Becker requested Scavenger double check the pounds per person figure which was questioned last year before their presentation
- Nunan asked if the subcommittee could review the Letters to Acres property owners template before they are sent out
- Salmon reported that the Trash to Treasure Workshop had low turnout but those in attendance had a great time. Submissions to the Challenge are due Sept 9.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS – None.

NEXT MEETING: September 28, 2022

ADJOURNMENT – 8:25 PM