



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

CALL TO ORDER – 6:38 PM

ROLL CALL

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449
- Nunan submitted an emergency request to Etherton on Sunday. Salmon moved and Calmes seconded approval; the motion was adopted unanimously.

Committee members present: Calmes, Ebel, Fieldman, Nunan (remote), Salmon

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salmon thanked everyone that joined our record 50+ participant turnout for Coastal Cleanup Day last weekend. Fieldman suggested we consider a cleanup on Quarry Road, there is a lot of waste including human waste on the side of the road; Kinser suggested submitting a service request.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Etherton noted that correspondence was received from a local resident who wished to remain anonymous inquiring about a local ban on gas leaf blowers; they would support a ban on their use.

NEW BUSINESS

- B. Presentation on residential electrification and supporting programs - Vanessa Shin, Peninsula Clean Energy (PCE) and Colin Bovet, QuitCarbon
- Etherton introduced the speaker and noted that these presentations were timed to help prepare OSEC members to speak about electrification at our Day in the Park booth. We will have PCE handouts at the booth, and talking points will be sent in a follow-up email.
 - Shin discussed PCE’s formation and role in procuring clean electricity at reduced rates for customers which allows for fossil fuel energy sources, such as natural gas for home heating and gasoline for vehicle fuel, to be replaced by electric sources and significantly cut their carbon pollution.
 - Bovet discussed the elements of home electrification, including high-efficiency heat pumps for space and water heating and clothes drying, induction cooktops, and electric vehicle charging. He noted that while solar and/or battery storage are often

components of all-electric homes, with the clean electricity available through PCE, these costly elements are not required to support decarbonization. Bovet stressed the importance of planning ahead for electrification and described QuitCarbon's free service for creating a plan and contractor-matching resources.

- Shin wrapped up the presentations by describing the various PCE programs and rebates available to help residents and addressed questions about contractor participation and stacking incentives with BayREN, PG&E or federal programs.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- C. Minutes of August 23, 2023 – Salmon moved to adopt the agenda and Ebel seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously with Calmes abstaining.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton:

- Some OSEC members still need to complete sexual harassment training.
- Hosting a ribbon cutting for the Mission Blue solar system in partnership with PCE and the Coalition for Clean Air on Monday as a preview for CA Clean Air Day
- PlanIt Geo noted that it was good we got in line for the inventory before some new grant funding sources, as they expect to be very busy next year! The tree inventory will likely start in Q1 2024 and be completed by the end of the fiscal year; we'll identify priorities by end of Nov and meet with their team in Dec. GIS Manager Sage has provided files for the canopy survey.
- County Office of Sustainability has released an RFP for a new 2-year contract to continue outreach and engagement for the Disposable Foodware Ordinance at the end of the current contract in Feb/March.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – Salmon reported on the group's meeting and Day in the Park plans; Etherton confirmed that booth coverage was good with Fieldman picking up an hour that was light.
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, Rogers) – no update
- *Building Decarbonization (Becker, Ebel, Fieldman) – Etherton noted she is meeting with PCE about new reach code options so will schedule a meeting after that; no update yet on Berkeley's en banc request Circuit Court.
- *Open Space Plan Update (Calmes, Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser to send materials
- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Nunan, Calmes) – Salmon requested that Kinser sent the report to Ariel at Mountain Watch and Paul Bouscal; Kinser will check with City Manager about meeting with the property owner
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Becker, Fieldman, Nunan) – meeting with Liaisons about the draft ordinance scheduled for Oct 24th at 4pm
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (Becker, Ebel, Salmon) – Ebel reported that the committee met a couple weeks ago and has another meeting scheduled for reviewing input from staff reviews which are currently underway. Etherton noted the ordinance will hopefully be

coming to the full committee next month. Salmon added that a survey to get community feedback is also going out; it will be sent through the Luminary, STAR, and at Day in the Park. Fieldman suggested a flyer for the survey in the City Hall lobby and at the library.

- *Tree Issues (Calmes, Ebel, Salmon) – Calmes compiled the lists of recommended trees into one excel list and noted ones she wouldn't recommend as street trees; the brochure should be reprinted as it was last year.
- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – no updates

CALENDAR ITEMS

Etherton shared photos from Coastal Cleanup Day and mentioned the All Electric Homes tour on October 14th.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS – none

NEXT MEETING: October 25, 2023

- Etherton asked about the November and December meeting dates and posed Dec 13th as an alternative—all present agreed that date works.

ADJOURNMENT – 8:02 PM