



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

CALL TO ORDER – 6:30 PM

ROLL CALL

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

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

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

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- B. Minutes of October 25, 2023 – Salmon moved to adopt the agenda and Calmes seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- C. Annual waste diversion presentation – Teresa Montgomery, SSF Scavenger Co
- Montgomery started off by addressing a question that had come up prior to the meeting start about what to do with old holiday lights; she recommended reuse if possible or e-waste recycling if not. Fieldman noted SCRAP in San Francisco which accepts items for reuse by artists and Montgomery added RAFT on the peninsula which creates kits for teachers from reused materials
 - CalRecycle Targets: 16.69 per resident or 7.9 per employee; we were below that for 2022 at 12.1 lbs/person/day by population and 7.0 by employee
 - 2022 Procurement target – would have hit 70% of eventual SB1383 legislation target and more than double the 2022 requirement
 - Montgomery shared samples of outreach materials and the “oh no!” tag which is left on bins which are not properly sorted, are overflowing or otherwise problematic; the first time the bin is usually picked up anyway but repeat offenders may have the waste left to be corrected before Scavenger returns to collect

- Rogers asked how many notices have been left during “lid-flipping” inspections; Montgomery didn’t have numbers on-hand but could get them from the CalRecycle Electronic Annual Report
- Montgomery went over some of the problematic cases, including recyclables being mixed on both sides of the split cart and noting there is a video demonstrating this which she can share on social media again
- Fieldman asked about recycling markets; Montgomery noted that glass and metal are good, cardboard and paper are generally OK, but plastic is typically not valued except #1 clear plastic bottles which are subsidized
- Upon inquiry, she noted that ~30-40% of truck fleet fuel needs are met by the Renewable Natural Gas produced through the anaerobic digester
- Fieldman asked whether she could compost black walnuts, which she has loads of from her tree, and the shells have tannins that are toxic; Montgomery will investigate
- Montgomery noted the Disposable Foodware Ordinance
- Committee members asked about e-waste drop-off or pick-up; on-call cleanup for single family homes can pick up e-waste, Montgomery and Etherton will discuss further options
- Salmon suggested an event for pick-up of all kinds of challenging materials: e-waste, fabric, tires, etc.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton:

- CalRecycle SB1383 formula grants for implementation of the law; first cycle funded participation in countywide compost procurement with the Resource Conservation District and a messaging effort to improve compost quality/sorting. Recently applied for the second round, which is a little larger, to increase to quarterly compost giveaways (currently annual), direct-mail educational pieces, and towards a Climate Corps Fellow that will split their time between SB1383 enforcement as well as Building Efficiency Program, with funding for the latter out of the City’s general fund.
- The Dark Sky Ordinance was passed unanimously by the City Council at the first reading on November 16 with minor changes/clarifications requested. Second reading expected 1/18.
- PG&E scheduled to upgrade electrical at Bayshore Park & Ride for EV chargers on Jan 4. Also working with PG&E to schedule a shutdown for the repair of the City Hall solar disconnect switch and to make progress on the pool water heater electrification project in preparation for Peninsula Clean Energy funding/financing program application early 2024.

Kinser:

- Letter went out to 200 Valley drive about the dead Monterey Pine.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – no update
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, Rogers) – Etherton noted being in touch with the new library manager about needing to update the display, new topic areas are needed so she will reach out to schedule a meeting for January

- *Building Decarbonization (Becker, Ebel, Fieldman) – meeting on Monday
- *Open Space Plan Update (Calmes, Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser will follow up to schedule a meeting
- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Nunan, Calmes) – Kinser has not yet gotten a meeting set with the property owner; seems like volunteer work is proceeding.
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Becker, Fieldman, Nunan) – Kinser reported they need to meet again; spoke to PW Director about nuisance abatement who was supportive, and the city attorney thought an existing fire abatement provision could apply; the subcommittee should work through how to fit that together
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (Becker, Ebel, Salmon) – Etherton noted that updates to the draft ordinance based on the council’s feedback was sent to the subcommittee, but she doesn’t feel a meeting is needed at this time. Fieldman asked about outreach, especially to businesses. Haven’t talked in detail about what will be done but we do recognize that robust outreach is necessary and can discuss that with the subcommittee after passage or move it to the Education and Outreach subcommittee if that’s more appropriate.
- *Tree Issues (Calmes, Ebel, Salmon) – met and discussed Canopy software, might have a training at a future OSEC meeting; Salmon noted concerns about the trees at the Marina
- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – no updates

CALENDAR ITEMS –

- Etherton noted that we will discuss the 2024 work plan in January and tentatively the Invasive Species Ordinance in February. Looking ahead to the summer, she proposes a break in June since she expects to be at a statewide conference on our usual meeting day and there are holidays the week before and after (Juneteenth and Independence Day).
- Rogers will reach out about the Lipman Science Fair.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS - none

NEXT MEETING: January 24, 2024

ADJOURNMENT – 7:46 PM