

**OPEN SPACE & ECOLOGY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

January 31, 2018 6:30 PM  
Community Meeting Room  
Brisbane City Hall  
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

**Call to order:** Fieldman called the meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

**Committee members present:** Ankenbruck, Ebel, Fieldman, Hayuk, Salmon

**Committee members absent:** Abney, Vladimirova

**Staff members present:** Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser  
Engineering Technician Sage  
Sustainability Management Analyst Etherton  
City Attorney Michael Roush

**1. Adoption of the agenda**

- Agenda Adopted

**2. Oral Communications (public comment)\***

- Salmon noted the February 3rd planting day as well as the impending deadline (1/31 at 8PM) to apply for a seat on OSEC (or other community commissions/committees).

**3. Protection as Open Space of City-Owned Brisbane Acres**

- City Attorney Michael Roush provided an overview of the issue and direction from Council. Responding to committee member questions, he clarified that a declaration of restrictions would be applied to all city parcels, including those purchased with state or federal funds which are already restricted. It would be applied to parcels purchased in the future within the Priority Preservation Area as part of the acquisition documents; it is not “self-executing” but the property would be purchased subject to this declaration. Two parcels will be retained as water system sites, but habitat is still preserved there.
- The committee reviewed Ebel’s suggested edits. For Recital C, Roush will clarify that the language applies to all city-owned parcels regardless of funds used for purchase and strengthen “intends”. For #5, the suggestion was to give authority to revoke or amend the declaration to a majority of voters rather than a majority of the council. The pros and cons of this suggestion, which could potentially require city funds at a future date to hold an election, as well as additional alternatives of supermajority or unanimous council votes, were discussed. The committee voted to recommend amending the declaration to require a unanimous vote of the city council to revoke or amend the declaration. The City Attorney will make these changes and present the committee’s recommendations to Council.

**4. Approval of the minutes**

- Minutes approved

#### **5. Education and Outreach Goals**

- The committee discussed several ideas for community outreach and education, which will be explored in detail by the Education and Outreach Subcommittee. Suggestions included: Citizen Science initiatives, for example identifying invasive plants; public art or exhibits at City Hall and around town about climate change, such as posts marking future sea level rise; and video shorts collected from citizens on the outreach channel about things like how to sort recycling.

#### **6. Earth Month outreach events**

- Etherton noted a potential conflict between the City's Earth Day Habitat Restoration Event Saturday April 21<sup>st</sup> from 10 AM – 1 PM and a community event South San Francisco Scavenger will be hosting from 12 – 2 PM on the same date that may attract local residents. The committee agreed to keep our Earth Day event as scheduled and promote the SSF Scavenger event. Staff will schedule a meeting with the subcommittee, Parks and Rec Commissioners and staff, and Ariel from Mountain Watch to begin planning. The Events subcommittee and Education and Outreach subcommittee could consider additional "Earth Month" efforts.

#### **7. Subcommittee reports/ Calendar items/ Chair and committee member matters**

- Etherton presented suggestions for subcommittee reorganization. Committee members suggested further changes including: adding the Lighting Ordinance to the CAP Subcommittee and adding Waste Stream to Education & Outreach. The Invasive Species Ordinance will remain a standalone subcommittee, as will the PCA Grant Application, Festival Tree & Lipman Science Fair Judging ad hoc subcommittees. The Education & Outreach Subcommittee will have to be reduced to three members. Michele will join the Festival Tree group; further review of subcommittee members will occur after new committee members are appointed.
- CAP Subcommittee Report:
  - The group re-started the Building Energy Saving Ordinance discussion; additional research into other cities' policies is required.
  - Only two people used the energy efficiency toolkit coupons. Ebel would like to see another attempt with greater outreach.
  - Staff is tasked with further research on the Purchasing Guide.
- Beginning work on a lighting ordinance was discussed. Areas of concern were outdoor residential lighting and both indoor and outdoor lighting in industrial areas, for new and existing facilities.
- Etherton shared the 2018 calendar, with an updated format from prior years. Committee members requested the calendar include specific event dates; Etherton will revise as they become available. Members also inquired about the Invasive Species letter; a previously-sent letter was not located in the files when discussed last year, so Sage will be drafting a new one for the committee's review.
- Fieldman noted the Climate Litigation Webinar hosted by Union of Concerned Scientists last week; Etherton also watched. The take-away was generally that cities need to have

their own damage estimates to move forward. Roush noted that the city would need to consider costs, and that he will be in touch with the County to get further details on costs and whether there's an opportunity to "sign on" to the County's lawsuit. We could gauge the Council Liaisons' interest when we meet with them in coming months.

## 8. Staff updates

- Kinser:
  - The City was awarded a C/CAG grant for Safe Routes to School & Green Infrastructure at three intersections: Visitacion and Mariposa, Visitacion and Alvarado, and San Bruno and Santa Clara.
  - Fieldman asked about LimeBikes, which have been deployed in South San Francisco; staff will check into it.
  - Hiked the Firth Canyon trail with Sage and Hayuk; one of the locations being considered for improvement. It traverses two private properties so staff will need to start by reaching out to the property owners. Trail standards may be needed to legitimize the trail. Hayuk, though his OSEC membership will be ending when a new member is appointed, will remain involved in this project.
- Etherton:
  - Requested OSEC assistance at the registration table at the Planting Day on February 3<sup>rd</sup>; Ankenbruck volunteered.
  - Received a combination Home Energy Score and Advanced Home Upgrade Audit of her home last week as part of the research into the Building Energy Saving Ordinance. Sage participated as well and the process and results will be further discussed with the CAP Subcommittee at their meeting next week.
  - The City was awarded an energy efficiency grant from C/CAG San Mateo County Energy Watch. The focus is preliminary design work on the Glen Park Pump Station to ensure the highest energy efficiency feasible is achieved. It will dovetail with participation in the PG&E Water Infrastructure System Efficiency (WISE) program which includes a system-wide review of our water system, beginning with pump efficiency tests on all 10 of the city's pumps.
  - Mayor Conway signed on to a Climate Mayors letter opposing the repeal of the EPA Clean Power Plan. Fieldman inquired whether the Climate Mayors group was doing anything about Renewable Energy budgets being slashed; Etherton will investigate.
  - The City's EV Charging station will be activated next week and a ribbon-cutting will be held at 10 AM on Wednesday February 14. Mayor Conway will have some remarks and coffee and donuts will be provided. The city will run a six-month pilot of free charging for sessions up to 45 minutes and \$5/hour thereafter. Usage and cost data will be evaluated to devise a long-term plan that is fiscally responsible for the city while promoting the station's use. Committee members suggested reaching out to local businesses and workers with the help of the Chamber.
  - On Friday Jan 26, kindergarteners from BES visited City Hall for a tour; Etherton prepared a waste sorting exercise with them and the group did a great job!
  - Staff is reviewing an Office of Sustainability "4 R's" (reduce, reuse, recycle, rot) grant. The opportunity was shared with School District contacts since it gives strong consideration to educational/youth projects.

- The SunShares program closed for the year and no contracts were signed this year, though several were last year. The program is expected to continue in 2018 and the City plans to participate again.
- The City was added to the Peninsula Clean Energy ECO100 Directory, a page on the PCE website which promotes local organizations that have “opted up” to 100% clean energy.
- The RICAPS consultants noted in December that data issues with PG&E were resolved and the City’s community inventory for 2015 would be available early this year. The January RICAPS webinar featured a presentation on refrigerants; RICAPS staff and consultants will be looking into ways that cities can take action.
- Sage noted that a service request has been submitted for the dead trees on Quarry Trail that committee members had noted at the November 2017 meeting.
- Ebel inquired whether anything was planned for the footpath between Alvarado and San Benito; Kinser reported that the City had applied for but not received a grant for the project which is estimated at \$200,000. However, now the City has conceptual plans and will be ready for the next grant opportunity.

**9. Next meeting date: February 28, 2018 6:30 PM**

**10. The meeting adjourned at 8:32 PM.**

\*Public comment on the agenda items is welcome at the discretion of the Chair