

Open Space & Ecology Committee Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, May 25, 2016 6:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

Brisbane City Hall

50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:

Hayuk called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM.

Committee members present:

Ebel, Fieldman, Hayuk, Keogh, Salmon, and Vladimirova

Committee members absent:

- Abney

Staff members present:

Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser

Management Analyst Escoffier

1. Adoption of the agenda

- Agenda adopted.

2. Oral communications

3. Approval of the minutes

- Minutes approved.

4. Chair and committee member matters

- Salmon discussed shadow boxes she seen that display what items go in what waste bin. Hayuk suggests making one for Day in the Park.

- Ebel suggests reorganizing the Ecology bookshelf at the library. Keogh will work with Ebel.

- Ebel discussed assembly bills that cover energy disclosure for buildings, AB 1103 and AB 802.

Ebel has noticed that the square footage requirements for disclosure have increased, and small buildings are not required to disclose energy use. Kinser suggests discuss this with the liaisons.

- Ebel read an article about faucets aerators; the gallon per minute rate is 1.2.

- Fieldman would like to feature an article in the STAR about pesticides and honeybees. Keogh and Hayuk will work on the article. Salmon said there is a resource at Mountain Watch, which knows a lot about bees.

- Keogh attended the Open Space Conference. She reported that there was a large discussion about measure AA, which is going to support restoration of wetlands. Committee members can support the measure as individuals.

- Keogh discussed with a consulting company representative that wind turbines kill raptors.

- Keogh learned that French broom and Scottish broom are illegal to be sold in California.
- Keogh learned that doctors will be prescribing outdoor recreation as opposed to medications. Keogh would like to place county trail maps on the ecology shelf in the library, and a few other local trails such as the Crocker Park trail.
- Salmon asked if the city trees are continuing to be watered. The watering program has been suspended for the winter. Vladimirova continues to see local businesses with faulty irrigation systems that water the sidewalk; she would like to see compliance with the watering regulations. Kinser commented there is designated staff to speak with non-complying businesses, it is best to continue to call in complaints and leave messages if City Hall is closed.
- Salmon commented trees at Brisbane Elementary School look like they are dying. Staff can send a letter to the school district.

5. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

- Vice Chair Abney is not present. This item will be moved to the next meeting.

6. Finalize Baylands land use recommendation letter for submission to Planning Commission and City Council

- Staff made edits to the letter and made clarifications on some sections.
- References to the Sustainability Framework and FEIR response to comments will be added.
- Vladimirova commented that OSEC should not promote the Recology expansion without knowing the environmental impacts of the project. Vladimirova also feels the expansion does not support using fewer resources.
- Fieldman said her and Ebel thought about Brisbane as a part of a region, in which waste can be locally regulated instead of being sent overseas.
- It was agreed to change the wording of the letter to reflect that the concept of the Recology expansion is supported, upon completion of an environmental review and proposed mitigation.
- Vladimirova asked if the old rail road yard would be a hub or a repair yard.
- Hayuk replied it would be both, which would also be subject to environmental review.
- Fieldman said increased public transportation will assist in reducing GHG emissions. Salmon added high speed rail could help reduce emissions from SFO.
- Salmon said OSEC had consensus on the Recology expansion and railyard during review of the DEIR.
- Vladimirova approves the letter if the changes discussed are made.
- Salmon motions to adopt the amended letter. Motion passes.

7. Discuss possible Invasive plant ordinance and review prior discussions

- Members discussed that an ordinance can provide guidance to the community about invasive species and bring awareness.
- Ebel said it was previously discussed to have the surrounding cities around San Bruno Mountain to adopt an ordinance.
- Kinser commented that enforcement will have to be determined for the ordinance. This can be discussed with the OSEC liaisons.
- An invasive species list was previously generated when Joe Cannon came to an OSEC meeting.
- Updating the invasive list will be done through a commission or Public Works after the ordinance is adopted.

8. Subcommittee reports

a. CAP subcommittee

- Ebel previously discussed AB 802.

b. Bike to Work Day

- Hayuk and Salmon saw Abney at a station. Ebel volunteered as well.
- Staff can share commuter numbers at the next meeting.

c. Habitat Restoration Days

- June 25th from 9am – 12pm, there will be a restoration day located near The Ridge, off of Silverspot Dr. Vladimirova will reach out to the HOAs at The Ridge to attend.
- July 23rd will be a restoration day at Sierra Point Canyon.
- Salmon mentioned on Earth day a lot of broom was removed from the site, and possibly next year the focus can be on removing anise. There were a good number of volunteers, many of which came from The Ridge.
- Vladimirova would like for the city to provide extra weed wrenches for the restoration day in June.
- Salmon would like to attend the budget hearings to support funding the work for Firth Canyon.

d. Education and Outreach- Schools

- School staff has been invited to a CAP meeting; she was not able to attend.
- Keogh said it would be best to get in touch in September when school starts up again.
- Ebel has the measurements for the banners, and hopefully youth can volunteer to paint them.

9. Staff updates

a. Community Garden

- Kinser will give an update next meeting if funds are approved for expansion. Ebel will meet with a community member on other sites for the community garden. Kinser mentioned the entrance to Community Park is an option for a second site. Keogh commented this site may have too much shade.
- Ebel mentioned AB 551, which refers to urban agricultural zones that can be available for funding. Possibly the community garden can be designates an urban agricultural zone.

b. Committee biographies

- Escoffier requests that OSEC members email her their biographies if they have not already.

c. Discuss change of next OSEC meeting to Wed. June 22

- The 22nd does not work for Ebel or Salmon. July 15th will be the next OSEC meeting.

d. Carbon Disclosure project

- The Carbon Disclosure project is a non-profit based in the UK. They gather data about GHG emissions measures. Staff filled out the survey and sent their information.

e. Free solar EV charger for a day at City Hall

- Envision solar approached staff to offer free EV charging for a day, July 14 was proposed for the demonstration date. Keogh mentioned Day in the Park would be a good day to have the demonstration.
- Fieldman commented that people in town with EV cars should come to Day in the Park to talk about their cars.

f. Day in the Park

- Day in the Park has been moved to September 24th.
- Format of the event will change: tents will be moved, there will be a beer and wine garden and a pet parade.

g. UN Global Public Awareness campaign

- Fieldman said the UN is bringing public awareness to global warming, and asks cities to spread the word.

h. Open PACE

- PACE has partnered with other financial organizations that offer loans for home upgrades to form Open PACE. Open PACE is more regulated and allows easy comparisons between the companies.

i. House hold hazardous waste day

- The county is having a drop off day for household hazardous wastes. Information will be available on the city website and city Facebook page. Drop off is free for 10 gallons of waste or less, call or go online to make an appointment.

10. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.