

**OPEN SPACE & ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
AGENDA**

November 20, 2019 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Called to order at 6:31 PM.

Committee members present:	Lam, Salmon, Ebel, Rogers, Fieldman
Committee members absent:	Dykes, Ankenbruck
Staff members present:	Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser Sustainability Management Analyst Etherton Engineering Technician Sage
Public Present:	Beth Grossman, Radu Mihaila

1. Roll call

2. Adoption of the agenda

Adopted.

3. Oral Communications (public comment)*

None.

4. Climate Reality Workshop Proposal – Beth Grossman

Grossman participated in Al Gore’s Climate Reality training in Minneapolis in August and wishes to host an event with OSEC. As an artist, organizer and activist, she generally prefers a workshop format. Would like to bring people together to discuss what the city’s plans are—in her interviews this week, she found that many people do not know that we have a Climate Action Plan—and then have a dialogue about how to engage the public with the plan. Etherton suggested adding resource tables, Salmon suggested additional subject matter experts as participants instead. Fieldman suggested looking at the Transition Towns framework. The committee voted to co-sponsor the event and agreed to assign the CAP Subcommittee to work with Grossman on the event. Etherton will email the subcommittee and Grossman to set a meeting date to begin planning.

5. Approval of the September and October minutes

September: change #5 Reach Codes from “introduced” to “presented” and #9 remove second sentence; approved as amended. October minutes approved.

6. Tree Issues

The committee reviewed a memo from the Community Development Director. Kinser suggested the formation of an ad hoc subcommittee to address tree issues; this is included in the subcommittee item next on the agenda. Etherton reported on the staff Green Team tree subcommittee’s first meeting and efforts they are beginning. Fieldman inquired how to notify an owner of a private tree requiring removal; a few years back staff sent letters to owners of dead Monterey Pines regarding the disease and liability issues. As this is the same issue, staff could send the same form letter, so Fieldman should simply send staff the information.

7. Subcommittee reports and reorganization

- a. **Tree Subcommittee** – Ebel, Salmon and Rogers will establish the new ad hoc subcommittee; Ebel will lead.
- b. **280 South Hill Funds** – Kinser reported on the Park & Rec department and Commission steps taken towards a Crocker Park Master Plan RFP. Lam will join Rogers on the subcommittee. Subcommittee will comment on the draft RFP.
- c. **Open Space** – Salmon requested a meeting and the subcommittee discussed availability; she would like to discuss priority acquisitions and an Open Space Plan. Salmon will be the lead. Kinser will check with Schillinger about participating as he manages property acquisitions.
- d. **Climate Action Plan** – Etherton will email about scheduling a subcommittee with Grossman on the Climate Reality event in early January. The subcommittee will determine a lead at that meeting.
- e. **Events** – Sage will lead for now and establish a meeting for organizing the 2020 events.
- f. **Education & Outreach** – Rogers will take the lead.
- g. **Invasive Species Ordinance** – Sage has drafted and we will be asking Council to approve joining the Weed Management Area. Will revisit in January; make active.
- h. **Dark Skies Ordinance** – Ebel will lead.
- i. **Festival Tree Replacement** – will be discussed in Staff Reports.
- j. **Lipman Science Fair** – Rogers will lead; make active.
- k. **PCA Grant Application** – make dormant.
- l. **Liaison for Benchmarking Ordinance** – will be discussed in Staff Reports.
- m. **Beautification (w/ Council, Parks & Rec)** – Ankenbruck absent.

Etherton will re-send committee contact list. We will move Staff Reports before Subcommittee Reports in the future.

8. Calendar items

Noted the Building Efficiency Program on the Council agenda tomorrow and Planting Day on December 14th.

9. Chair and committee member matters

Salmon noted San Bruno Mountain Watch's Mission Blue Nursery native plant sale on Saturday November 23.

Fieldman inquired about the jubata grass (pampas grass) in San Bruno Mountain Park and efforts to prevent the further spread of seeds. Sage reported that the County is focused on jubata grass, while other areas on the coast have been prioritized earlier but they expect to manage them by next fall; he also noted permitting in the HCP is very strict. Fieldman also asked if we could write to the schools on the West side of the mountain asking them to remove the jubata on their property; Sage will take this on and confirm the properties with Etherton.

10. Staff updates

Kinser reported on the e-Link signboards; they are aiming for an early 2020 installation and unveiling. She also reported on the Festival Tree; they are looking into funding source and informing council of the plans. Moving electrical service, removing brush and planting are expected to cost around \$20k, and still working to complete by year end.

Sage noted that the Weed Management Area's recent meeting discussed the statewide Cal-IPC conference; San Mateo County's WMA was referenced as the model organization for the state and Sage's poster for Picnic in the Weeds was shared. The 2020 WMA funding will be released on July 1; each county will receive \$20k and there will be a review process for the remainder of the \$3M. He reported on testing of the release of gall flies and moths to address Cape Ivy. The Conservation Land Network is on track to meet their goal of having half of all land in the 10-county Bay Area (9+ Santa Cruz) in conservation by 2050; CLN 2.0 is their report on the topic which he will send out. Ebel suggested the Invasive Species Subcommittee review their report and send CLN a letter encouraging them to prioritize San Bruno Mountain.

Etherton confirmed that the Reach Codes and Building Efficiency Program are both going to City Council on Nov 21. Following up on a request from last meeting, she shared an update on the Adopt a Spot stations from Keegan Black: stations were installed at 5 locations (San Bruno Ave at lower BES field, lower Bicentennial Walkway, ad hoc skate park, South Hill near Sheng Kee, Costaños Canyon) and staff is still

considering adding one at the Marina; they are emptied about once per week and are used some, but have not made a significant dent in the litter problem. She wrote an article for the December STAR about the climate benefits of electrification. Etherton noted that the Resource Conservation District recently completed the Butano Channel Reconnection project, near Pescadero, which significantly improved habitat for salmonids and lowered flood risk for the community. She reported that she joined the City Manager and Councilmember Lentz at the first meeting of a new County Climate & Housing Task Force, and has also joined the San Mateo Climate Ready Collaborative's Sea Level Rise Task Force; the latter has a new climate impacts viewer in beta form which will be a valuable public communications tool. She also reminded committee members of the process to add items to the agenda: either through consensus at a meeting or through the chair, who can email suggestions to staff up to a week prior to the meeting.

Oral Communications from Radu Mihaila, resident of the the lower Brisbane Acres, about the plan lines for rights of way in the acres. The committee asked if the item could be agendized and requested that it is if allowed; Kinser will look into it. He also asked about efforts to mitigate fire danger and was directed to contact the city and North County Fire Authority as well as look into CERT.

11. Next meeting: December 18, 2019 6:30 PM

12. Adjourned at 8:49 PM.

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