

Open Space & Ecology Committee Meeting

Minutes

Wednesday, July 20, 2016 6:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

Brisbane City Hall

50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:

Chair Abney called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM.

Committee members present:

Abney, Ebel, Fieldman, Keogh and Salmon

Committee members absent:

- Hayuk and Vladimirova

Staff members present:

Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser

Management Analyst Escoffier

Guest staff: City Attorney Michael Roush

Public Works Intern Yuen

1. Adoption of the agenda

- Salmon moves to adopt the agenda, seconded by Keogh. The motion is carried unanimously by all present.

2. Oral communications (public comment)

- Salmon announced that restoration day is July 23rd at Sierra Point Canyon beginning at 9am.

- Paul Bouscal, SBMW board member, announced that Brisbane gave SBMW \$20,000 for wetland stewardship projects.

3. Review of Memorandum Concerning Methods to Restrict Uses of City Owned Parcels in Brisbane Acres with City Attorney Michael Roush

- Kinser gave the introduction that restricting use of the city-owned acres was brought up by OSEC, Bouscal and was brought to City Council. Council then directed the City Attorney to research options.

- Roush discussed that the city owns 44 of 110 acres, 29 of which were purchased with state or federal funds which contain deed restrictions regarding the land use. Fifteen

properties were not purchased with state or federal funds, thus further protection of these properties will be focused on.

- There are four mechanisms that could be considered to restrict future use of property: Conservation Easements, Conveyance of the Property in Fee to a Public Entity or Land Trust, Declaration of Restrictions, and Land Use Restrictions.
- Roush discussed each mechanism as described in his memorandum. Roush recommends that a conservation easement is the best option because the city would have the most control.
- An open space district formation proceeding be initiated by a petition process or the City Council can adopt a resolution. LAFCO (Local Agency Formation Commission) would then need to approve the district's formation. LAFCO is composed of members from the Board of Supervisors, City Councils, Special Districts and a member of the public.
- Roush fielded questions about the mechanisms from OSEC members and staff. Bouscal met with members of Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST). POST acquires and maintains land for preservation. Bouscal thought POST could participate in the conservation easement.
- Roush will write a staff report for City Council based on the feedback from OSEC.

4. Approval of the minutes

- Abney proposed that the committee send comments on the minutes to staff in advance, and come to the meeting ready to approve them. All members agreed to submit corrections to Escoffier the Monday a week before the meeting; corrected minutes will be emailed once more prior to the meeting. Salmon moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Keogh.
- The level of detail of the minutes will be reviewed with the council liaisons.

5. Chair and committee member matters

- Ebel and Keogh updated the OSEC library shelf. Escoffier is assisting them in obtaining trail maps.
- Ebel received materials from HERO.
- Ebel read an article about methane surveying. Ebel feels third party verification beyond PG&E's reporting is needed regarding methane leaks, and she will continue to research this.
- Ebel will send Escoffier work she did on the toolkit.

6. Subcommittee reports

a. Day in the Park

- The list of activities was reviewed to determine if an electrical source was needed for our table. It was determined no electricity is needed.

7. Staff updates

a. Textile recycling

- SMART (Secondary Materials and Recycled Textiles) drop off locations are in Oakland and Richmond. Staff will research more on textile recycling. Salmon requests staff to contact Recology about what is being done for textile recycling.
- b.** Firth Canyon Restoration
 - The project was approved in the budget, but some questions from council members remain. The item will be discussed further with the council liaisons.
- c.** Community Garden
 - Capital improvement projects will be reviewed in the next budget cycle. The proposal included removal of diseased Monterey pines near the garden.
- d.** Beacon award
 - Staff applied again this year, and Brisbane may receive a best practices spotlight platinum award. The Beacon award is to recognize sustainability practices implemented.
- e.** Flags on Visitation
 - The budget request was initiated by Parks & Recreation Commission; OSEC can spend a quarter of \$6,000 to make Earth Day flags. Installation of flags may come out of operating budget.
- f.** Restoration Day – was discussed under Oral Communications.
- g.** Deep root watering of trees
 - The city watering program has started again. Trees are watered a certain amount by Davey Tree based on canopy size. Each tree in the program is watered approximately every three weeks.
 - Drought restrictions do not apply to hand watering. Ebel would like to encourage the public to water trees. Salmon would like for an article to be posted in the STAR.
- h.** RICAPS updates
 - In the RICAPS meetings Home Energy Score and building energy ordinances have been discussed. The climate action plan subcommittee will meet again to discuss.
- i.** UPC letter on OSEC Baylands comments
 - Ebel would like to draft a letter to City Council, as opposed to UPC.
 - Ebel and Fieldman will draft a response letter to be reviewed in the August OSEC meeting.

8. Adjournment

- The Meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.