

## Open Space and Ecology Committee

### Minutes

Wednesday, July 9, 2014 6:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

Brisbane City Hall

50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

#### **Call to order:**

-Chair Ebel called the meeting to order at 6:36 PM

#### **Committee members present:**

- Abney, Ebel, Fieldman, Hayuk, and Salmon

#### **Committee members absent:**

- N/A

#### **Staff members present:**

- Finance Director Schillinger

- Management Analyst Muñoz

#### **1. Adoption of the agenda.**

- Item 10. Biological inventory on Levinson property, will be moved to next meeting.

#### **2. Oral communications for items not on the agenda.**

-Fieldman would like to add on a future agenda to educate locals about local wildlife.

- Salmon would like to add don't feed animals and it is illegal to poison animals. Fieldman will draft an article and bring back to a future meeting for OSEC approval.

- Abney asked about putting a grate over storm drains to prevent animals from crawling in them. Schillinger will ask public works.

- The work plan will be altered in August before presenting to council in September.

- There will be an additional OSEC meeting to catch-up on a few items. Potentially August 6<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

- Salmon shared BBCAG meeting minutes from the presentation by Dr. Horne.

- Ebel asked about approval of the liquid fuels storage ordinance.

- Muñoz to send out notes on Mitch Bull and the Energy Strategy Subcommittee.

- Muñoz to contact Friends of the Urban Forest about our approved street tree list and search for the tree list altered by Sean Sweeney.

### **3. Permeable pavements and groundwater, Guest: Ken Johnson.**

- Johnson gave out a guidance document for the county to implement C3 stormwater requirements. Resurfacing is not subject to C3. Stormwater impacts can be reduced through the use of impervious surfaces. Projects must be designed to allow infiltration into the ground through flow through planters or drainage (such as in the City Hall parking lot).

- Fieldman asked how permeable pavements can cause landslides. Johnson said the hillside can be supersaturated. Pavement is chosen on a site by site basis. Most homes are on a lot size of 5,000 square feet, best management practices can be applied to these lots but they are not subject to C3.

- Fieldman said this is an issue with residents in Brisbane putting in wall-to-wall concrete that take away from habitat and can cause runoff issues.

- Salmon asked if the City of Brisbane can lower the C3 requirements, 10,000 sq. ft. is a large project, can it be lowered to 5000? Johnson said this is state regulation. Salmon said she is concerned about Sheng Kee Bakery expansion, Johnson said they will be subject to C3.

-Johnson said there have been projects on Valley Drive that have been subject to C3 due to their size.

-Schillinger asked if this can be addressed in the green building ordinance. Fieldman asked about the green building codes. Johnson said it became effective in January in 2014, except the energy portion. That has now been in effect starting July, there will be an email out shortly on meeting dates and to invite planning commissioners.

- Ebel asked if there are any publishings on guidelines to place permeable pavements. Johnson said there is not.

- Ebel asked what projects have been subject to C3 guidelines. Johnson listed: 275 Valley Dr., 246 Valley Dr., and 201 South Hill Dr. Some of these projects have used flow through planters to assist with groundwater infiltration.

- Ebel would like for the committee to consider: Where would infiltration be beneficial (such as Guadalupe Canyon)? Is groundwater recharge an issue in Brisbane?

- Salmon said that there are natural springs that have been receding over the years or have shifted due to development. Is there a map of the hydrology of Brisbane? Schillinger will look into storm drain maps from public works.

- Johnson referred to the C3 document he passed out with water table depth requirements.

- Ebel would like to consider how to approach the issue of wall-to-wall paved yards rather than permeable paving. Johnson said there are minimum landscape requirements for homes, 40% maximum lot coverage and 15% landscaping for the front setback area. Additionally if you are on a downslope lot you are also required to have landscape screening for the rear of the property.

- Johnson said this topic is a zoning ordinance issue and should be taken to City Council as a recommendation to the Planning Commission for review.
- Hayuk asked about how C3 will apply to new development. Johnson said anything over 10,000 square feet will be subject to C3.
- Schillinger asked what the next step will be to address this. The Green Building subcommittee's focus is more geared towards sustainable buildings. Wall-to-wall cement yards will be discussed with council liaisons during the meeting in September, when they go over the work plan.
- Muñoz will look into what other cities have done to address this issue, including cities with similar topographical characteristics.

#### **4. Update on Quarry Rd. Clean-up.**

- About 25 or so volunteers came out. There were 2 groups of volunteers. A group came out from Recology and helped tremendously.
- There was a lot of glass and various other items that were cleaned up. An entire dumpster was filled.
- Peter Stiehler and Ken McIntire did invasive removal work, both at the drainage ditch and along the trail.
- Muñoz has printed correspondence that suggests future clean-up days should take place at Bicentennial walk way.

#### **5. Update on polystyrene ban presentation.**

- No one attended the meeting held for business owners.
- The city attorney and the chamber of commerce have been consulted.
- Muñoz will reach out to business owners to speak with them about the ordinance.
- The ordinance will be placed on the agenda of an August City Council meeting.

#### **6. Preparation to meet with OSEC liaison, Guest: Karen Kinser.**

##### **i. Process for Energy plan (PV panels and parking lots).**

- Schillinger explained the OSEC liaison committee is interested in generating the Energy plan. PV panels and other energy related items will be included in this plan.
- Kinser has been looking into the process for developing this plan.
- Kinser has submitted a staff report to discuss her findings and suggestions on how to proceed with the plan.
- CCAG has developed this framework for an energy plan. Many cities have plans developed from this framework.
- RICAPS has several different measures to choose from to customize the plan. There are also funds available for a consultant to assist us.

- Brisbane is interested in an Energy action plan as opposed to a Climate Action plan due to proximity to highway 101 and inability to lower those emissions.
- Fieldman asked if plans are geared towards AB32. Schillinger said yes, this conversation stopped due to the fact emissions from highway 101 is a large percentage. Due to the draft EIR we stopped looking into this.
- DNV-GL (Det Norske Veritas - Germanischer Lloyd) is the consultant, working group at the county level. CCAG is giving funds for us to get technical assistance with plan development.
- Salmon asked why OSEC will be excluded from looking at land use, Schillinger said the Planning commission will be looking at land use issues through the General plan update. This can be added to the discussion with liaisons in the September meeting.
- Implementation and enforcement of this plan is a concern. Enforcement will be in part due to the municode and green building ordinance. Schillinger added there are two City council members that will support this plan.
- The energy subcommittee will meet with Kinser and go over measures and the planning process to present to council in September.
- The Energy subcommittee consists of Fieldman and Ebel.
- Muñoz will set up a meeting with Kinser and the Energy subcommittee.

## **ii. Review process of the FEIR.**

- Salmon asked if OSEC would like to review responses to comments as a group.
- The timeline is not clear when the FEIR will be released and given to the planning commission. There is no official comment period for final FEIR.
- OSEC will ask city council on how to proceed with this process.

## **7. Community festival.**

- Date will be October 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The subcommittee will be Hayuk and Ebel.
- Ideas for the fair: water conservation, invasive species, greenhouse gases- carbon footprint piñata, carbon calculator and microgarbage.
- Muñoz will investigate into how much a piñata and a pole with cost.

## **8. Invasive plant brochure.**

- Elena Court has made some adjustments from the last draft, based on Joe Cannon's recommended species to target.
- Ebel suggests adding a long list of invasive species on one of the blank panels.
- Fieldman said the Latin names should be italicized.
- Salmon said Kevin Fryer should have good cover photos.

- Abney recommends the pamphlet should mention non-native vs. invasive species. And asked how long it will take to print, Muñoz will ask Elena Court.
- Salmon recommended that the brochure include a glossary (seed bank, native, non-native, etc.)
- Muñoz to remind Ebel to contact post office about art work of native flowers to ask permission to use for pamphlet.
- Ebel will add text to Ox-eye daisy and licorice plant. Muñoz will write about Pampas Grass, include history of how it became wide spread.
- On the empty panel there will be information on Mission Blue Nursery.
- Ebel's blurb on the ox-eye daisy will be submitted for print in the Star.
- Muñoz will contact Joe Cannon to look over the brochure.

### **9. Approval of the minutes.**

- Ebel has sent one correction to Muñoz via email: gray = greige.
- Salmon asks that paragraphs be broken into smaller sections.
- April and May minutes approved.

### **10. Adjournment.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 PM