

**OPEN SPACE & ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

September 18, 2019 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Called to order at 6:41 PM.

Committee members present: Fieldman, Rogers, Ebel, Ankenbruck, Dykes, Salmon (6:49)
Committee members absent: Lam
Staff members present: Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser
Sustainability Management Analyst Etherton
Engineering Technician Sage
Senior Planner Ken Johnson

1. Roll call

2. Adoption of the agenda

Adopted.

3. Oral Communications (public comment)*

None.

4. Approval of the August minutes

Fieldman clarified that the request for the piñata was for Day in the Park. Ebel asked about an error in the July minutes; Etherton noted that those minutes had been approved in August, so either a revision to the minutes or subcommittee assignments will be agendized next month to correct the problem. The August minutes were approved as amended.

5. Reach Codes – Senior Planner Ken Johnson

Johnson presented the concept of Reach Codes, which are revisions to the building code which go beyond the state requirements. The state code is updated every three years and must be adopted by local jurisdictions; the next code cycle begins on January 1, 2020. The City is planning to adopt two reach codes, one on electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure and one on building electrification. Staff has worked with a bi-county working group on model ordinances and plans to modify their model on EV charging and follow Menlo Park's approach on electrification. Johnson described the planned details of the ordinances, which are still in the process of being drafted.

6. Building Efficiency Program – TEC Program Manager Ivana Dorin and Sustainability Management Analyst Adrienne Etherton

Etherton and Dorin gave a presentation on the Building Efficiency Program, including background, current details of the draft ordinance and expected impacts.

Salmon inquired which buildings are 5,000-10,000 square foot and suggested that the threshold be lowered to 5k. Staff and consultants noted that this will only gain an additional 1% of the local square footage; they did not readily know the number of buildings in that range or have an example, but will follow up. One option may be to require benchmarking but not additional “beyond benchmarking” requirements; staff will try to incorporate this change if it does not unduly hinder the process moving forward.

Question about real estate appraisal exemption—what happens if it isn’t selling or is not truly intended to be sold? Staff and consultants reported that the cost of a commercial appraisal would make it unlikely that owners would abuse this exemption.

Ebel requested the cost data; Etherton will send the slides to the committee.

7. Subcommittee reports

- a. **Open Space/Acres** – no report.
- b. **Climate Action Plan** – no report.
- c. **Events** – Coastal Cleanup Day this Saturday—meet at the Marina at 9:30 am. Rogers reported on plans for Day in the Park and the group discussed the piñata; unfortunately, we will not have a safe space for a piñata this year.
- d. **Education & Outreach** – no report.
- e. **Dark Skies Ordinance** – no report.
- f. **Festival Tree Replacement** – Kinser reported that Davey tree found a boxed 20’ sequoiadendron giganteum that would cost \$9,500 and moving the ~14’ La Honda tree would be \$10,000; as reported last meeting the boxed tree would have a 90% survival rate and a moved tree would be 50%. Kinser and the subcommittee members will meet at the park next week about the location and share their recommendation with the Parks and Rec Commission.
- g. **PCA Grant Application** – Kinser noted that the application was submitted and no further response had been received.
- h. **Liaison for Tree Ordinance** – Staff reported that the Council adopted the tree ordinance with few modifications.
- i. **Liaison for Benchmarking Ordinance** – previously covered.
- j. **Beautification (w/ Council, Parks & Rec)** – Ankenbruck volunteered and the committee unanimously approved.

8. Calendar items

Etherton will ask Scavenger to bring their sorting game to their presentation next month.

The committee discussed a planting day, tentatively listed on the calendar for November. Ebel would like to do maintenance at the native plant garden on Old County Road; the committee decided to do this as a committee + friends activity. Members requested staff reach out to San Bruno Mountain Watch about a public planting event on the mountain.

9. Chair and committee member matters

Ankenbruck noted trees removed on Sierra Point Road east of Glen Park Way and Firth Park Parking lot.

Ankenbruck also shared that Beth Grossman recently completed Al Gore's Climate Reality training; the committee agreed to discuss it at an upcoming meeting.

Fieldman noted the Climate Strike on September 20th with a week of events following.

10. Staff updates

Kinser:

- Justin Yuen taking over as liaison to Commute.org serving on their Supervisory Committee.
- Working on design of new stairway walkway Tulare to Santa Clara funded by Council. Also applied for a grant for another walkway Alvarado to San Benito from the CCAG BPAC.
- LEDs on decorative streetlights – contractor put in other samples on Mission Blue Drive at intersections with Checkerspot and Redhawk. They were the best yet as far as color and light spread and will be stocked.
- Putting in lights at Christmas Tree lot, and ultimately repave the area at Bayshore and Old County to prevent ponding, and adding pathway marking. Ebel requested asking SamTrans to add another bus shelter across the street from the Post Office.

Etherton:

- City to receive Platinum Beacon Award (full!) next month
- Recent analysis of the City Hall solar photovoltaic system shows it is outperforming expectations and likely to cover almost all of the facility's annual load
- Green Team kickoff meeting on September 23rd; 12+ staff members expected

- Attended a presentation and demo/drive at Motiv Power Systems with Keegan Black, PW staff responsible for fleet management; they now have work truck options we are investigating
- Taking over more of the solid waste work after another staff departure

Ebel inquired about where the Council is at regarding expansion of the Community Garden; Kinser noted that it was on the list of Capital Projects and she did not believe it was funded. If another funding source was available, we may be able to move it forward. Ebel noted a list of city-owned sites that had been previously identified; committee members requested staff try to locate it for later discussion.

11. Next meeting: October 16, 2019 6:30 PM

Ankenbruck noted she will likely be absent.

12. Adjourned at 8:48 PM.

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