

## **OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes**

Wednesday, May 20, 2015 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 6:34 PM.

### **Committee members present:**

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

### **Committee members absent:**

N/A

### **Staff members present:**

Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser

Management Analyst Muñoz

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

- Agenda adopted.

#### **2. Oral communications.**

- Fieldman has a letter from her neighbor, Coleen Mackin that she asked to be read at the meeting.
- This letter will be added to the agenda for discussion at the next OSEC meeting.

#### **3. City of Brisbane's plan to comply with the State's Drought Emergency Water Conservation Regulation, Senior Civil Engineer Jerry Flanagan**

- Kinser mentioned that Flanagan is here tonight to discuss recent changes in water use requirements with the drought.
- Flanagan begins with background on regulation changes.
- 2014 Governor Brown state of emergency: reductions by 20% required
- SFPUC voluntary 10% reduction of its 26 wholesale customers.
- Executive order directing State Water Resources Control board to adopt emergency regulations to insure urban water suppliers were implementing water saving measures.
- Resulting prohibitions: washing down sidewalks and driveways with potable water, using water in a decorative fountain unless the water is circulated, washing your car without the use of an automatic shut off nozzle.
- In accordance with ordinance 589, adoption of a contingency plan was adopted by the city.
- Stage 1 drought response measures were implemented.
- 2015 The Governor Brown issued an executive order for the State Water Resources Control board to impose a state wide reduction on water suppliers of 25% for urban uses.

- May 18, 2015. These regulations came into effect. Tiered water reductions were determined based on per capita use of gallons per person per day. Lowest tier being an 8% reduction and the highest being 36%. Brisbane being far below the lowest tier.
- The state defines Brisbane as a small water supplier. Small water supplier has a different set of restrictions to abide by.
- Small water supplier restrictions: limit ornamental/ landscaping to no more than 2 days per week, or reduce water production by 25% of 2013 levels.
- 25% reduction is not realistic for Brisbane to comply with.
- Current city restrictions are as follows:
  - Outdoor ornamental/ landscape watering no more than 2 days per week, no watering for 48 hours after measurable rainfall, no watering of landscapes from 9am-6pm, no using potable water to wash hardscape, no hose should be used to wash a car without an automatic shut off nozzle, and no use of water in a decorative feature/ fountain unless it is recirculated water.
  - The city will have to determine the definition of measurable rainfall.
  - Restaurants: will only give water upon request.
  - Hotels: must offer the option to launder towels periodically.
  - City: cannot use potable water to irrigate landscapes and medians.
  - City is focusing on public education of these requirements before moving forward with enforcement.
  - Outdoor irrigation accounts for the city are approximately 42%.
- Vladimirova asks what will be done about irrigation systems that water the sidewalks.
- Flanagan says the public is encouraged to call public works to report this and they will come out to speak to the customer.
- Salmon asked if the system is still being flushed and suggest using a water truck to capture the water that is being flushed. Flanagan said the amount is limited and water is captured when feasible. Since 2013 the amount of flushing has become very limited.
- Ebel would like to check on the data represented in a water handout given at Day in the Park events.
- Fieldman has suggestions for public education: composting in your yard helps retain water, use of oyster shells as a drip irrigation for plants, and possibly offer incentives for community members to implement these water saving actions.
- Enforcement schedule: addresses ending in an odd number and sites with no address can water Mondays and Thursdays. Addresses ending in an even number can water Tuesdays and Fridays.

- Hayuk asks how enforcement will occur. Flanagan said staff efforts will focus on commercial areas.
- Salmon suggest circulating information about recycled car washes.

#### **4. Review of Draft Baylands Sustainability Framework**

- Fieldman explained that the committee consists of 2 members of the council, 1 open space committee member (herself), 1 planning commission members, 1 parks and recreation commission member and city manager Clay Holstine.
- The committee has been meeting off and on for about 3 years. The drafting of the document has been done by a consultant with edits suggested from the committee.
- The document is a framework because it is designed to be a living document that provides guidance for construction on the Baylands.
- The framework is based on One Planet Principles: 1. Zero carbon buildings 2. Zero waste 3. Sustainable transportation 4. Local and sustainable materials 5. Local and sustainable food 6. Sustainable water 7. Protecting open space and habitat 8. Protecting culture and heritage 9. Economic vitality with equity and ecology and 10. Health, safety and happiness.
- Abney commented that the framework is not enforceable. Fieldman mentioned the principles can become part of a development agreement.
- Vladimirova commented that in the energy sections there was little mentioned about reduced usage. Fieldman said that is addressed with building energy efficiency, but there is a limited amount that can be done with food.
- Salmon says the document addresses waste from the source. For health reasons there are restrictions on brining your own container to restaurants, and water is used to sanitize cups at coffee shops.
- Hayuk asked if the document was current with Title 24 requirements. Fieldman said Title 24 requirements and several other updates will be made to the document.
- Ebel would like to form a subcommittee to review the comments before they are submitted.
- Ebel went through some of her recommended changes/ comments: Loss of productivity due to climate change, the document should mention deforestation, roundabouts should be mentioned, commuting to work, emissions associated with food production and transit, subsidence and sea level rise, lowering the threshold for submetering, pedestrian and bike friendly paths, and methane capture.
- Salmon said it would be helpful to have a glossary of acronyms or write out the acronym.
- Fieldman will type the notes and email to staff, a subcommittee is not needed.

#### **5. Review of draft EAP outline and measures**

- Moved to next OSEC meeting.
- Fieldman discussed nominating your city for methane mapping through the Environmental Defense Fund.

**6. Approval of the minutes**

- Minutes approved.

**7. Election of Chair and Vice chair**

- Salmon elected Hayuk as the chair, seconded by Fieldman, all in favor.
- Salmon elected Abney for Vice Chair, seconded by Hayuk, all in favor.

**8. Chair and committee member matters**

- i. New photos are displayed of fire hydrants being painted in the Large Conference Room.

- ii. **Discuss opposition of fracking**

- Ebel would like to discuss this is a symbolic gesture. Added to agenda for next meeting.

**9. Subcommittee reports**

**a. Education and Outreach**

**i. Bike to work day recap**

- Ebel and Vladimirova were at an energizer station. Many commuters drew out their routes on a map.

**ii. Sustainability webpage**

- Vladimirova and Keogh met and asked Muñoz to add articles to the Sustainability webpage.

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**iii. OSEC library shelf**

- Keogh and Ebel have been working on the online OSEC library shelf.
- Members will get materials for the shelf at the library to Muñoz; Ebel will pick them up and take them to the library.

**10. Staff updates:**

**Habitat Restoration Day recap**

- Many OSEC members attended. Joe Cannon brought many of his students. Next habitat restoration day is June 27.

**Monterey Pine mulch**

- Mulch contained Italian Stone pine, not Monterey pine.

**Plastic bag recycling**

- Kinser said in the franchise agreement that South San Francisco Scavenger would give Brisbane a plastic bag recycling bin. It will be moved to the Post Office. Staff still needs to determine what can go in the container.

**Peninsula Sunshares meeting update**

- There will be a meeting in Brisbane on June 16. Brisbane is sixth out of all the agencies in the county in terms of sign-ups.

**Energy Watch Challenge.**

- Small businesses can get audits and qualify for energy upgrades.

**11. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM