

## **OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE**

### **ACTION MINUTES**

Tuesday, June 12, 2012 6:30PM  
Community Meeting Room  
Brisbane City Hall  
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

#### **Call to order**

Chair Fieldman called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

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

Ebel, Gutekanst, Hayuk, Salmon, Sweeney, and Chair Fieldman

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

None

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

Management Analyst Pontecorvo

#### **Others:**

Planning Commissioner Reinhardt

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

MC Gutekanst moved and MC Hayuk seconded to adopt the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

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

There were no public comments under Oral Communications.

#### **3. Review of Sustainability Goals for the Baylands.**

Management Analyst Pontecorvo provided a brief introduction to the Sustainability Goals for the Baylands. She noted that the City Council had received the Sustainability document on May 7 and referred it to the Open Space and Ecology Committee and other advisory boards for their review and input. The Council asked to receive comments back by July. The June 12 Open Space and Ecology Committee meeting was devoted to discussing the Sustainability Goals document and formulating feedback for the Council.

Chair Fieldman opened the discussion of the Sustainability Goals for the Baylands. She invited MC Gutekanst to present the written comments she had prepared, followed by

comments from each Committee member. A key critique of the Sustainability document was that it lacks sufficient treatment of the Baylands as a contaminated toxic brownfield. It does not address the limits of state and federal regulations, or the challenge of ensuring monitoring to assess and minimize the harmful effects of contamination on life in and around the bay.

The Committee raised numerous concerns about the potential impacts of climate change, and stressed that sea level rise as a result of global warming will compound the difficulty of containing contaminants.

Chair Fieldman and several other Committee members suggested that the idea of applying sustainability metrics in the relatively small scale of the Baylands is problematic. They observed that the document portrays the Baylands project as an island and recommended that greater attention be focused on how the Baylands can contribute to making the region as a whole more sustainable.

Other remarks highlighted the need for public transportation, clean energy, food production, habitat protection, constructed wetlands and bioremediation.

The Committee directed staff to prepare the Open Space and Ecology Committee's comments on the Baylands Sustainability Goals, and to email them to Chair Fieldman for approval before forwarding them to the City Council. Once Council receives the comments, it will likely refer the document back to the Sustainability Committee. The Sustainability Committee will then begin work on formulating an Action Plan with specific steps to implement the broad sustainability goals.

The Committee took a brief recess.

#### **4. Other Committee Matters.**

##### **a. CEQA training dates**

Management Analyst Pontecorvo referred to the notice in the agenda packet regarding CEQA training sessions. The first training is scheduled for Saturday, June 16 and is for all members of the community. The specific training session for the Open Space and Ecology Committee is proposed to take place at the regular OSEC meeting on July 10, but has not yet been confirmed. DVDs of all trainings will be made available.

##### **b. Fukushima Reactor 4**

Chair Fieldman presented the letter and articles she submitted to the City Council regarding Fukushima Reactor 4, and noted that she had not received any response from Council members. MC Gutekanst made a motion, seconded by MC Salmon, that OSEC ask Council to write a letter to other elected officials highlighting the danger posed by Reactor 4 and the need to expedite the removal of spent nuclear fuel. The motion passed.

##### **c. CAG update**

MC Gutekanst announced that the next CAG meeting will take place on Tuesday June 19 for the CEQA training.

**d. Community Festival**

Chair Fieldman provided a history of the Committee's role in the Community Festival. She highlighted various types of activities and materials that the Committee has offered in the past, and suggested that a subcommittee be established to plan the event. MC Hayuk and MC Sweeny volunteered. MC Gutekanst moved, MC Ebel seconded to appoint Kima Hayuk and Sean Sweeny to serve on the subcommittee. The motion passed unanimously. Management Analyst Pontecorvo agreed to submit the registration form on behalf of the Committee to the Parks and Recreation Department, and to assist in compiling materials for the Committee's booth.

**e. Open Space Conference report**

MC Salmon and Management Analyst Pontecorvo provided a brief report on the annual conference of the Bay Area Open Space Council.

**f. Recognition of Service by former OSEC members**

MC Gutekanst and Chair Fieldman updated the Committee on the gifts to former members Anjana Richards, Peter Stiehler, and Ray Miller.

**5. Approval of minutes: May 8, 2012.**

MC Salmon made a motion to approve the minutes of May 8. MC Ebel seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**6. Next meeting date: July 10, 2012.**

The next meeting date was set for July 10.

**7. Adjournment.**

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 pm.