Open Space and Ecology Committee

September 8, 2015

Agenda

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Tuesday, September 8, 2015 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Oral Communications*

3. Chair and committee member matters
   a. Report on the California conference on Climate Action Planning

4. Climate Action Plan review and recommendation to City Council

5. Subcommittee reports
   a. Community Festival
   b. Letter to City Council requesting a statement of opposition to fracking
   c. OSEC library shelf

6. Staff updates: Street tree watering, Monterey pines, Peninsula Sunshares numbers, Lagoon Clean-up day, and schedule next OSEC meeting

7. Approval of the minutes

8. Adjournment

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

Adoption of the agenda

Oral Communications

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

Climate Action Plan review and recommendation to City Council

Chair and committee member matters

- Report on the California conference on Climate Action Planning

Subcommittee reports

- Community Festival
- Letter to City Council requesting a statement of opposition to fracking
- OSEC library shelf

Staff updates

- Street tree watering
- Monterey pines
- Peninsula Sunshares numbers
- Lagoon Clean-up day
- Schedule next OSEC meeting

Approval of the minutes (page 1 of 2)

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

Draft Minutes

Wednesday, August 26, 2015 6:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

Brisbane City Hall

Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:

Chair Hayuk called the meeting to order at 6:35 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

- Nori Jabba a representative from Universal Paragon Corporation invited OSEC to a presentation about biodiversity on the Baylands by Brisbane Baylands group. The presentation conflicts with the OSEC meeting, so they would like to schedule another time or potential presentation in a future OSEC meeting.

3. Chair and Committee member matters

- Salmon would like to discuss three items: care of the local trees during the drought, further protection of Brisbane Acres and Open space planning of the Brisbane Village.

- Salmon asked about progress on nominating her to be the representative of OSEC to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) of San Bruno Mountain.

- Fieldman asked about having a trash can at Owl Canyon. Fieldman expressed concern about dead trees along Valley Drive.
- Fieldman asked about the OSEC library shelf not being displayed.
- Ebel would like an update on sign-ups for Peninsula Sunshares.
- Ebel would like to make the sustainability page more accessible.
- Ebel has received notice that Brisbane has joined the county green business program.
- Fieldman will bring a sympathy card for OSEC members to sign for Elena Court.

4. Presentation by Mark Heath of Shelterbelt Builders, contractor that performed Vegetation Management of Upper Brisbane Acres for 2015 per adopted plan.

- Shelterbelt builders specializes in habitat restoration based in San Francisco.
- Shelterbelt has been involved in the HCP process.
- Heath will discuss areas that have been treated.
- Harold Road sites: typically there are a lot of shrubs, some grassland and forests. Crests over the ridgeline and is next to the county property.
- The red outline is broom and yellow is oxalis. There is a lot of French broom and fennel.
- Broom is controlled by hand and followed by herbicides.
- Parcel 98: light lines are social trails, there are a few pine trees, cotoneaster, and broom. Birds spread cotoneaster through spreading seed.
- Today there is a lot of follow up work on the acres to manage invasive species such as fennel and broom.
- Brisbane acres work got started at the water tanks. This area has a lot of broom, ivy and some remaining black berry. Much of the broom is removed from the property, but there remains some on bordering property. Less grassland and more scrub on this parcel.
- Scabiosa is difficult to control due to how easily it is spread.
- Hayuk asked about the climax community in the absence of fire and grazing. Heath said it will mainly go to scrub and yield to trees. Closed cone pines were pushed to Mexico with glaciation and now they are coming back.
- The lack of presence of deer allows for more brush variety.
- Stumps of trees that have been cut down are treated with herbicides.
- There are several weeds found on the mountain, such as money plant and ragwort.
- Margaret Avenue: This land does not have many weeds. This is one of the largest forest properties, acacia trees were removed in the past and sprouts are treated. Historically stands of eucalyptus were removed.

Approval of the minutes (page 2 of 2)

- New invasive species such as ehrharta grass has been found, which is very difficult to remove. The cost is high to achieve noticeable results.
- Fieldman asked about issues with succession and habitat quality.
- Salmon would like to see work on open grasslands, and removal of non-native species.
- Fieldman asked how to slow the succession down since so far the vegetation management plan covers invasive removal.
- Heath mentioned Creek Side Science did analysis on the mountain and has a strategic focus on existing lupine habitat. Heath also mentioned there are not a lot of host plants. Efforts can be two parts with focus on succession and planting host plants.
- CEQA, CALFire and other agencies do not like using fire as treatment, there are several permits required for prescribed burning.
- Salmon would like to add Firth Canyon to the vegetation management plan.
- Heath suggests direct seeding of Lupine is the best. Salmon said Mountain Watch does not have the capacity to weed and plant, and can work in concert with contractors.
- Fieldman asked when the best time to plant seed is. Heath said right before the rains, although it is difficult to determine when it will rain.

5. Consider making recommendation to Council to adopt Climate Action Plan

- OSEC would like to move review of this document to the next OSEC meeting.
- Comments on the document will be emailed to staff by September 2nd.
- The OSEC meeting will be moved up in order to get this document to City Council in September.

6. Subcommittee reports

a. Community Festival

- Keogh will have a meeting with the videographer for Day in the Park.
- Keogh would like OSEC members to sign up for time slots to staff the table.
- Materials used last year will be brought to the next OSEC meeting.
- Salmon suggests a booth for interviewing people.
- Fieldman suggests recruiting the bag monster to attract people to the booth and add as a visual to the video.

b. Letter to City Council requesting a statement of opposition to fracking

- Abney composted the letter.
- Any comments can be emailed to staff to forward to Abney.
- Direction to council should be stated for them to write a letter to the state. Hayuk suggests having this direction as a separate paragraph to stand out.

c. Report on the California Conference on Climate Action Planning

- Ebel found it interesting that vehicle miles traveled is still increasing. In order to reduce VMT, housing and employment should be connected.
- Ebel would like to add that entities that are drafting a Climate Action Plan are focusing on achieving 2030 goals that have been established by legislation.
- Hayuk suggests moving this report to the next OSEC meeting.

7. Review of OSEC work plan

- Staff will confirm with Shelterbelt that OSEC requests a proposal for restoration work on Firth Canyon.

8. Staff updates:

- Council discussion on Brisbane Acres zoning regulations at the August 20th meeting: this has been moved to Council agenda in September.
- Natural gas/ methane leak mapping: Kinser has contacted the city PG&E account representative to inquire about what is done for methane gas leaks. The representative will get back to Kinser in September.
- Draft climate friendly purchasing guide for City of Brisbane: the OSEC liaisons met with the college summer intern that drafted the guide, which she presented at a council meeting. This will be added to the climate action plan. The intern used several city purchasing policies as a guide to write her draft. The guide will be circulated to OSEC to be reviewed in October.
- Owl canyon: there was a trash can placed at Owl Canyon, it was not chained down and is now missing. Kinser has been in touch with the county to determine if they are able to provide a trash can.
- Deep root watering is being done on trees throughout Brisbane. Ebel has seen staff from Davey tree watering each tree on her street. Fieldman said the trees near her home are visibly improved.
- Community engagement for the Parkside at Brisbane Village project: the consultant that will be brought on board and drive the community engagement process. Some local groups did not receive notice of this project.
- TAC representation: the city attorney determined that these meetings were staff level. No other cities have assigned a representative to attend these meetings. Arechiga has sent some documents to be forwarded to OSEC.
- Staff is working on the lot paving letter.

9. Approval of the minutes

- Amended minutes approved

10. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:51 PM.

Adjournment