

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

ACTION MINUTES

Wednesday, December 14, 2011 7:00PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order

Chair Gutekanst called the meeting to order at 7:09 pm.

Committee members present:

Fieldman, Miller, Richards, Stiehler, and Chair Gutekanst

Committee members absent:

None

Staff members present:

Administrative Services Director Schillinger
Management Analyst Pontecorvo

Others:

Councilmember Ray Miller

1. Adoption of the agenda.

Under “Discussion with liaison subcommittee” Chair Gutekanst asked to add “Sierra Point Guidelines” to the agenda. MC Stiehler moved and MC Richards seconded to adopt the agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Oral Communications for items not on the agenda.

There were no public comments under Oral Communications.

3. OSEC Priorities for 2012 and Topics for Discussion with Council Liaison Subcommittee.

Administrative Services Director Schillinger presented the memo of potential topics that the Committee has identified for discussion with the City Council Liaison subcommittee. These include the Baylands EIR, Sustainability Committee, Energy Strategy, Vegetation Management, Habitat Conservation Plan, as well as waste reduction, the approved tree list, and Christmas bird count.

Chair Gutekanst said that she would like to prioritize a discussion about the process for reviewing the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Baylands.

Councilmember Ray Miller recommended considering how to effectively read and critique an EIR. He also discussed the Sierra Point Design Guidelines noting that they had not been updated since 1982. The Council will be addressing the process for updating them at the January 9, 2012 meeting.

The staff and Committee agreed to invite Community Development Director John Swiecki to attend the January OSEC meeting to discuss the Baylands EIR process and the Committee's role in it. Mr. Swiecki would also be prepared to speak on the Sierra Point Guidelines.

Chair Gutekanst briefly led a review and discussion of the other topics on the list. The Committee agreed to discuss these with the City Council Liaison subcommittee once the new OSEC members have been appointed.

4. Open Space and Ecology Committee Vacancies and Recruitment.

Chair Gutekanst and MC Fieldman noted that their terms are expiring and that they are each planning to reapply and continue service on the Committee. MC Stiehler announced that he would not be applying for another term.

5. Other Committee Matters.

a. Science Fair

Management Analyst Pontecorvo outlined the schedule for the Lipman School Science Fair. The events will take place on Monday-Thursday, January 23-26. MC Richards volunteered to serve as a judge and to announce the Ecology Award.

b. Library Display

Management Analyst Pontecorvo reported on the library exhibit space, noting that it is available for the first few months of 2012. The library staff expressed interest in a display on the problem of plastic debris in the marine environment. Ms. Pontecorvo also informed the Committee about the Recology Artist in Residence Exhibition scheduled for January 20-21 that will include an exhibit on marine debris.

c. Vegetation Management

Management Analyst Pontecorvo noted that she had met with a professional tree contractor regarding removal of the Acacia trees, and had contacted Mark Heath of Shelterbelt Builders regarding invasive plant control. MC Stiehler prepared a list of proposed native plants and locations for restoration, using seed stock that comes from San Bruno Mountain. Vegetation management subcommittee members Gutekanst and Stiehler agreed to prepare a recommendation for the January meeting.

d. Sustainability Committee update / OSEC representative

Administrative Services Director Schillinger noted that the OSEC representative to the Sustainability Committee had been Ray Miller. He suggested that the Committee appoint a new person to represent them. The Committee voted unanimously to select MC Fieldman to serve on the Sustainability Committee.

e. Recognition of Service by Ray Miller

The Committee discussed ways to recognize the service of Ray Miller who has served on the Committee since its inception. Chair Gutekanst offered to get back to the Committee with ideas at its January meeting.

6. Approval of minutes: November 9, 2011.

MC Richards made a motion, and MC Stiehler seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

7. Next meeting date.

The Committee scheduled its next meeting for Thursday January 19 at 4:00pm.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 9:34 pm.