

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

ACTION MINUTES

Wednesday, November 10, 2010 7:00PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order

Chair Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05pm

Committee members present:

Fieldman, Gutekanst, Moreau, Richards, Stiehler, and Chair Miller

Committee members absent:

McHenry

Staff members present:

Administrative Services Director Schillinger
Management Analyst Pontecorvo

1. Adoption of the agenda.

MC Gutekanst moved and MC Richards 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. City Council Matters.

a. Baylands EIR Process update

Chair Miller introduced Community Development Director John Swiecki. Mr. Swiecki provided a brief summary of the history of the Baylands project from 2005 to the present. He referred to the Executive Summary of the UPC revised Baylands Specific Plan and noted that a new EIR Notice of Preparation would be released. The scoping period is usually 30 days after the release of the NOP but will likely be extended to 45 days. By 2011, it is anticipated that there will be a draft EIR available for the public's consideration. Following his presentation, Mr. Swiecki took questions from the Committee.

Anja Miller commented on the issue of a possible rail yard in the Baylands.

b. Baylands Sustainability Committee

Chair Miller announced the composition of the Baylands Sustainability Committee with representatives from the Planning and PB&R Commissions, OSEC, and the City Council. The first meeting will be held on November 29.

c. CalGreen Building Code

Community Development Director Swiecki discussed the State of California's new Cal Green Building Code that will go into effect in January 2011. It is applicable to all new construction both residential and commercial. He provided an overview of the mandatory Code and optional Tiers. He pointed out that if a local jurisdiction has a green building ordinance in place that is stricter than CalGreen, then the more stringent requirements would apply. Administrative Services Director Schillinger reported that the staff recommendation to the City Council will be for the Committee to monitor CalGreen in the coming year.

Chair Miller thanked Community Development Director Swiecki for taking time to attend the Open Space and Ecology Committee meeting.

d. Bicentennial Walkway

Administrative Services Director Schillinger reported that staff discussed the Committee's recommendation to vacate the Lassen Way property known as Bicentennial Walkway as a street and dedicate it as a walkway. Staff is in agreement with this proposal and will bring the issue to the City Council in early 2011.

4. Brisbane Energy Strategy.

a. Energy Strategy Subcommittee report.

Chair Miller reported that the Energy Subcommittee met on November 3 with new member MC Richards. They are reviewing a variety of options and will continue to update the full Committee. Management Analyst Pontecorvo noted that the focus has been largely on public education, including announcements in the Star and blog informing the community about energy rebates and tax credits, as well as broadcasting energy related videos on Brisbane's cable channel.

b. Energy Upgrade California update.

Management Analyst Pontecorvo provided an update on Energy Upgrade California, including development of a marketing video and web portal. She announced the next meeting of the new joint Advisory Board on November 18 in Redwood City.

Anya Miller suggested that the Committee sponsor a meeting of Brisbane community members to share their experience with implementing energy efficiency and renewable energy, rather than wait for the state program to roll-out.

John Burr commented on the CEQA process and issues pertaining to UPC and the Baylands EIR.

The Committee took a 15 minute recess from 8:30 – 8:45 pm.

5. Other Committee Matters.

a. CAG update.

MC Gutekanst discussed a presentation made by Dr. Fred Lee at the October 19, 2010 CAG meeting and highlighted his recommendations for more research and monitoring. She referred the Committee to his full report. MC Gutekanst discussed various regulatory agencies with authority over the site and the development of remediation plans. Chair Miller recommended that the Committee's scoping comments emphasize remediation and reference Dr. Lee's report.

John Burr commented on the toxicity of chemical contamination in the Baylands and the challenge of remediation.

b. Westmoor High School garden donation

MC Moreau stated that she has a meeting planned with Westmoor High teacher Annie Lovell and requested discussing this topic at the December 8 OSEC meeting.

c. Discussion of recognition of Fred Smith

Chair Miller presented MC Gutekanst's idea to take a photograph of San Bruno Mountain to give to former Assistant to the City Manager Smith as a remembrance. MC Moreau and MC Stiehler offered to work on this. Chair Miller asked the Committee for comments on his draft letter of recognition to Fred Smith. The Committee approved the letter with only minor changes. Chair Miller proposed to continue the discussion at the December meeting.

6. Approval of minutes November 10, 2010.

Chair Miller inquired about the draft letters to Dave Holland and Lowe's nursery. MC Moreau agreed to prepare the letters and deliver them to Chair Miller for his signature.

MC Stiehler moved, and MC Moreau seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed.

7. Next meeting date.

The next meeting date was set for December 8, 2010.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm.