Open Space and Ecology Committee

October 20, 2015

Agenda

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Tuesday, October 20, 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. Presentation by Napallo Gomez-Somer from PG&E on Gas Line Repairs

4. Chair and committee member matters

5. Climate Friendly Purchasing Guide review with cost considerations

6. Discuss approach to implement Climate Action Plan

7. Subcommittee reports

    Community Festival

    Letter to City Council requesting a statement of opposition to fracking

8. Staff updates: Lagoon cleanup update, deep root watering, Monterey pine removal, Brisbane water reductions, Parkside Plan representative, CCA/E update and next meeting

9. Approval of the minutes

10. 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

Presentation by Napallo Gomez-Somer from PG&E on Gas Line Repairs

Chair and committee member matters

Climate Friendly Purchasing Guide review with cost considerations

Definition

Climate friendly purchasing (CFP) means the purchase of products and services that have a decreased negative impact on human health and the environment when compared to alternative products and services. This policy is designed so City employees will purchase materials, products, or services which are fiscally responsible, and have the least impact on the environment.

Purpose

The goal is for the City of Brisbane to use its purchasing power influence to offer goods and services with better environmental performance, and to procure products and services from manufacturers and suppliers that demonstrate a high level of environmental and social responsibility. The City intends to reduce impacts to human health and the environment, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, remove unnecessary hazards, and improve to the overall environmental quality of the region. This guide will direct the City's efforts in purchasing environmentally preferred and/or sustainable products and services.

This guide is intended to:

Identify those sustainability factors that will be considered when making purchasing decisions.
Provide implementation and purchasing guidance.
Empower City of Brisbane employees to be leaders in environmental stewardship.
Communicate the City's continued commitment to long-term sustainability efforts.

Implementation and Compliance

When purchasing or using products/services the City employee will follow these steps:

Use products and/or services that are certified with an Eco-label. If a certification label is not on the approved list (as seen below) the employee will look to step two of the process.

When looking for an Eco-Label certification, it is important to use independent third party social/environmental service label standards. Labels should be developed and awarded by an impartial third-party that was produced in a transparent process.

- This guide recognizes that eco-friendly products may come with a higher up front cost when compared to competing products. The City gives permission to the employee purchasing said item or service to choose the more eco-friendly item. Products that are durable, long lasting, reusable, or create less waste shall be selected whenever possible. It is also worth mentioning that when purchasing an eco-friendly product, although the initial cost may be higher, the product will likely offset higher longer term costs that the City may incur. Considering the life cycle of a product over the initial cost of a product is crucial. Since there is a growing market for eco-friendly products, employees may have the opportunity to consider the most cost effective product between two eco-friendly options.
- The following list provides a list of example products and the various eco-label certifications to look for. This is not a comprehensive list, as there are many eco-friendly labels out there. Make sure to reference the above statement about identifying a legitimate eco-label.

Product Category/Service	Example Products	Eco-Label
Paper	Copy paper, colored copy paper, cardstock, business cards, post-its, file and hanging folders, dividers, brochures, newsletters, mail inserts, envelopes, shipping and mailing labels, note pads, custodial paper products.	**These must contain a minimum of 30% post-consumer recycled content**
Office Supplies	Binders, sheet protectors, pencils, pens, white-out, paper clips, scissors, ink and toner cartridges (use non-toxic inks)	
Office Furniture and Indoor/Outdoor Fixtures	Desks, chairs, high efficiency toilets and water saving fixtures, carpet, plastic lumber. For products that use wood, give preference to products that are certified to be sustainably harvested.	
Cleaning Products and Paint	Green cleaning and maintenance products, low-toxicity paint, and other products that are low in volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and/or carcinogens	
Vehicles	Hybrids, low emission vehicles, alternative fuel vehicles (AFV), electric vehicles	
Electronics	**Purchase all new computers and monitors so that they are EPEAT certified. Replace desktop printers, copiers, fax machines, and scanners with multifunction devices. Recyclable and rechargeable batteries shall be purchased and used whenever possible.***	

EcoLogo

baltix sustainable furniture

GREEN SEAL CERTIFIED

FSC

ENERGY STAR

epeat BRONZE Meets all required criteria

epeat SILVER Meets all required criteria plus at least 50% of the optional criteria

epeat GOLD Meets all required criteria plus at least 75% of the optional criteria

EV

GREEN SEAL CERTIFIED

HON

GREENWARE MADE FROM PLANTS

If there is no eco-label or "eco-friendly" alternative product the employee will consider qualities such as; durability, product life, life-cycle assessment, environmental health/ benefit of the product, maintenance costs, and ultimately the disposal of the product when compared to competing products that do not offer these more environmentally friendly benefits. While not all of these factors can be considered in every purchase, it is intended that City employees will make a concerted effort to incorporate and balance these factors to the maximum extent possible.

Environmental factors to be considered, but are not limited to, include:

Toxicity
Waste generation
GHG emissions
Energy consumption of the product and in the production of the product
Depletion of natural resources
Impacts on biodiversity

Other factors to consider in the office:

Reduce transportation impacts when ordering goods. Avoid overnight shipping whenever possible, give preference to local manufactures and distributors, and ask vendors to offer incentives for reducing the frequency of deliveries.

Do not use unsustainable packaging, encourage vendors to use reusable/ recyclable packaging, buy long lasting products, and consolidate orders.

Only print when absolutely necessary, use duplex setting when printing (if offered on the printer), and identify "printed on recycled paper" when printing and "think before you print" on staff e-mails. Further develop a practice of reducing as much paper as possible (email when possible and only print documents upon request).

The "Everything for the Workplace" office supply catalog (that is supplied by the distributor we contract with to purchase office goods) helps to highlight which products are recycled and environmentally friendly. Also look at the SF Approved List website http://www.sfapproved.org/ when searching for new goods.

Recycle and repurpose items whenever possible. Items can include; cars, furniture, computers, electronics, etc.

Regarding the Brisbane Community Pool and other City facilities: Consistently monitor energy efficiency and regularly re-train staff on energy saving practices at said sites. Re-asses the efficiency of City facilities frequently (frequency to be determined).

Appliances	Purchase all new appliances (microwaves, fridge, stove, and toaster oven) so that they are energy star efficient.	
Kitchen Supplies	Cups, plates, cutlery, and coffee filters that are made of recycled or biodegradable materials/ environmentally friendly. In the future, consider purchasing a dishwasher for the City kitchen to be used with eco-friendly dish washer detergent. In the future, establish a compost bin for City Hall.	
Electricity/ Energy	It is the intention of the City to further investigate and consider moving to using solar-powered energy/ renewable energy sources for City buildings and facilities. Buildings have lighting controls, timers and/or motion sensors.	

*Use auto-shut off or sleep mode on computers and monitors if available.

It is worth mentioning that the City of Brisbane is committed to water reduction and conservation. City staff is committed to limiting water usage at City facilities with efforts such as limiting outdoor landscaping watering, and fixing leaking water fixtures. The City shall continue to reduce water usage and improve water efficiency, and to educate and encourage the residents of Brisbane to do the same.

Monitoring and Training

Staff and/or an appropriate advisory committee will be tasked with implementing the City's Climate Action Plan, when adopted, and will also assist in implementation of the Climate Friendly Purchasing guide for the City. They will focus on tasks such as:

1) Formulate a plan for implementation.
2) Educate city staff about the new guide, and help facilitate the use of the guide.
3) Review the policy bi-annually to present any recommendations to the City Manager or City Council to be more effective and efficient and further build on the guide.
4) Organize the pilot testing of environmentally preferable/sustainable products for office use.
5) Ensure that internal policies and procedures reference this guide and make an effort to incorporate the use of sustainable products and services accordingly.
6) Encourage employees to attend sustainability related trainings, in or outside of the office.
7) Identify instances (and frequencies) where the policy is waived and there are barriers to purchasing eco-friendly products and try to seek alternatives for the future.
8) Monitor the actual behavior and implementation of the guide. Figure out how to quantify improvements and behavior/practices.

The City shall commit to providing the appropriate staff and funding needed to support the implementation of this guide. This could include activities such as employee trainings, product/service pilot tests, and providing educational materials.

Sources

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"Sample Climate-Friendly Purchasing Guide." *Sustainability/Climate Change*. Institution for Local Governments. Web. 19 Aug. 2015.
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Espinoza, Tyler, Chris Geiger, and Iryna Everson. "The Real Costs of Institutional "Green" Cleaning.
"*Http://www.greenbusinessca.org/media/article_uploads/the_real_costs_of_green_cleaning_v6.pdf*. Green Businesses CA. Web. 19 Aug. 2015.

Cost comparisons

Conventional vs Environmentally preferred

Product Category/Service	Example Products	Approximate cost of conventional	Approximate cost of environmentally preferred product	Source	Percentage difference between products (- sign equals cost savings, +sign equals cost increase)
Paper	Copy paper, colored copy paper, cardstock, business cards, post-its, file and hanging folders, dividers, brochures, newsletters, mail inserts, envelopes, shipping and mailing labels, note pads, custodial paper products.	$53.99/ 10 reams	$51.99/ 10 reams	http://www.officedepot.com/a/browse/copy-and-multipurpose-paper/N=5+530730/	-1.9
Office Supplies	Binders, sheet protectors, pencils, pens, white-out, paper clips, scissors, ink and toner cartridges (use non-toxic inks)	$12.99 each 3 inch ring binder	$12.99 each 3 inch ring binder, 39% recycled	http://www.officedepot.com/a/browse/binders-and-accessories/N=5+2155&viewAllSkus=true&cbxRefine=723459&cbxRefine=724034/?hijack=binders&type=SuggestedSearch	N/A
Office Furniture and Indoor/Outdoor Fixtures	Desks, chairs, high efficiency toilets and water saving fixtures, carpet, plastic lumber. For products that use wood, give preference to products that are certified to be sustainably harvested.	637.99 per mesh 6-8 hour ergonomic chair	669.99 per mesh 6-8 hour ergonomic chair ecoconsious and recycled content	http://www.officedepot.com/a/products/518380/Raynor-Ergohuman-High-Back-Mesh-Chair/	2.4
Cleaning Products and Paint	Green cleaning and maintenance products, low-toxicity paint, and other products that are low in volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and/or carcinogens	$6.99 Lysol all purpose cleaner with bleach 32 oz spray bottle	$4.99 Green works all natural all purpose cleaner spray bottle 32 oz	http://www.officedepot.com/a/browse/multipurpose-cleaners/N=5+654439/?hijack=multipurpose%20cleaner&type=SuggestedSearch	-16.7

Vehicles	Hybrids, low emission vehicles, alternative fuel vehicles (AFV), electric vehicles	2016 Chevrolet Impala $27,095	2016 Chevy Volt $33,170	http://www.gm.com/vehicles/browseByType.html#/?price=120000&brand=all&type=sedan&appState=list	10.1
Electronics	Purchase all new computers and monitors so that they are EPEAT certified. Replace desktop printers, copiers, fax machines, and scanners with multifunction devices. Recyclable and rechargeable batteries shall be purchased and used whenever possible.*	$199.99 Samsung 24" LED monitor	$169.99 Acer 24" LED monitor	http://www.officedepot.com/a/browse/monitors/N=5+590996/?hijack=computer%20monitors&type=SuggestedSearch	-8.1
Appliances	Purchase all new appliances (microwaves, fridge, stove, and toaster oven) so that they are energy star efficient.	$999.00 Frigidaire 22.07-cu ft Side-by-Side Refrigerator with Single Ice Maker (Stainless Steel) (has energy savings if fridge not opened for 24 hours)	$1047.60 Whirlpool 24.5 cu. ft. Side by Side Refrigerator in Monochromatic Stainless Steel (Energy star rated)	http://www.homedepot.com/b/Appliances-Refrigerators-Side-by-Side-Refrigerators/N-5yc1vZc3q0/Ntk-SemanticSearch/Ntt-refrigerator?Ntx=mode+matchall&NCNI-5	2.4
Kitchen supplies	Cups, plates, cutlery, and coffee filters that are made of recycled or biodegradable materials/ environmentally friendly. In the future, consider purchasing a dishwasher for the City kitchen to be used with eco-friendly dish washer detergent. In the future, consider purchasing a dishwasher for the City kitchen to be used with eco-friendly dish washer detergent. In the future, establish a compost bin for City Hall.	$13 per 75 plates ($0.17 ea.)- Plastic/ coated paper	$67 per 500 count ($0.13 ea.)- Biodegradeable	smart and final and costco	-13.3
Electricity/ Energy	It is the intention of the City to further investigate and consider moving to using solar-powered energy/ renewable energy sources for City buildings and facilities. Buildings have lighting controls, timers and/or motion sensors.	Further analysis needed to asses savings.			

Discuss approach to implement Climate Action Plan

City of Brisbane

Climate Action Plan



Subcommittee reports

a. Community Festival

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

Letter to City Council requesting a statement of opposition to fracking

Open Space and Ecology Committee
The City of Brisbane

Honorable City Council Members
City Hall 50 Park Place
Brisbane, CA 94005

Dear City Council Members:

The Open Space and Ecology Committee (OSEC) has discussed hydraulic fracturing (fracking), and its ecological effects. Even though Brisbane's local ecology is not directly impacted by hydraulic fracturing, we are still concerned that the downstream environmental impacts will affect Brisbane. We are writing to encourage the City of Brisbane to join other cities and municipalities that are taking action to oppose hydraulic fracturing.

Hydraulic fracturing is a process used to extract natural gas and or oil trapped in shale and coal beds that are otherwise inaccessible. The energy companies dig wells, first drilled vertically, then horizontally, deep under the earth's surface. They then pump a highly pressurized mixture of water, chemicals and sand (slurry) down into the wells causing the rock to fracture, releasing gas and/or oil in large quantities. As with any enterprise, there are pros and cons.

The pros are obvious. Locally produced gas and oil is less expensive and reduces dependence on foreign resources. Energy companies hope to produce enough gas and oil to eventually export; each well can deliver 300,000 barrels of gas a day. Lastly, it creates thousands of jobs.

The cons are quite concerning. Currently there are approximately 500,000 active hydraulic fracturing wells in the US; each well can be fracked up to 18 times. A fracking job requires 1 to 8 million gallons of water and 40,000 gallons of chemicals. Fresh drinking water is used for hydraulic fracturing, which is trucked to the well sites. By the time a well is closed, it has used up to 72 trillion gallons of water and 360 billion gallons of chemicals. The energy companies are lucky if they can clean up half of the slurry, the rest is left in the ground to dissipate. The energy companies are not required to disclose what chemicals are used, and some sources have noted caustic and radioactive chemicals.

The energy companies' claim there is no risk that the slurry could leach into the ground water. Unfortunately, studies show that methane concentrations are typically 17 times higher in the drinking water near hydraulic fracturing sites than elsewhere. This has led to nearly 1,000 reports of water contamination surrounding areas where fracking operations have occurred, resulting in a number of health issues when the water is ingested. Recovered slurry is left in open pits, when evaporation occurs VOC's (volatile organic compounds) are released into the air, dramatically decreasing the air quality by creating ozone and acid rain.

Researchers from the USGS and the Oklahoma Geological Survey specifically mentioned that hydraulic fracturing contributes to occurrence of earthquakes. Oklahoma's earthquake frequency has increased from three per year to hundreds per year from 1990 to 2009. Living in California where we are prone to earthquakes, it would be prudent not to weaken the ground's integrity with hydraulic fracturing.

OSEC sees hydraulic fracturing as a potential for environmental disaster. Cheaper gas and oil does not outweigh the potential environmental impacts. Even though it may not initially affect Brisbane's ecosystem, which is not the case for other cities that have to fight the powerful energy companies to stop hydraulic fracturing. We feel that Brisbane should support those cities.

Please consider adopting a resolution to ban hydraulic fracturing in the City of Brisbane and sending a letter such as this to the State for consideration.

Thank you so much for your help.

Sincerely,

The Open Space and Ecology Committee

References:

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http://www.mlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2014/05/fracking_a_divisive_practices.html
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http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/12/us-science-fracking-earthquakes-idUSBRE96A0TZ20130712
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http://www.freerepublic.com/focus/f-chat/2877477/posts

Staff updates

- Lagoon cleanup update
- Deep root watering
- Monterey pine removal
- Brisbane water reductions
- CCA/PCE update
- Parkside Plan representative
- Next meeting

Approval of the minutes slide 1 of 3

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
Draft Minutes
Tuesday , September 8, 2015 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:
Salmon called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

Committee members present:
Ebel, Fieldman, Keogh, Salmon and Vladimirova.

Committee members absent:
Abney and Hayuk

Staff members present:
Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser
Management Analyst Muñoz

1. Adoption of the agenda
- Agenda adopted.

2. Oral communications
- Xiomara Cisneros from Brisbane Baylands project came to announce a few events:
Site tour of the Baylands project on September 19th from 1-2:30pm, a tour bus will pick people up at Brisbane village or Lagoon cleanup day site.
- There are events on every 4th Wednesdays on various topics: September 30th from 7-8pm Bicycle planning and proposed map.
- Hours of the office are Tuesdays 9am -1pm, Thursdays and Sundays from 1- 5pm.

3. Chair and Committee member matters
- Ebel asked about trees being removed on fields and replacement of trees. Kinser replied these trees are on school property and are the responsibility of the school district.

a. Report on the California conference on Climate Action Planning
- Ebel presented her notes from the conference on Climate Action Planning that she attended in August.
- There was an ongoing theme on the need for action and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Ebel listed several examples of leadership in municipalities: photovoltaic panel requirements in San Diego and Hermosa Beach aiming to be carbon neutral by 2020.
- Fieldman commented referring to "Utilities for Dummies", explains clearly how utilities work.
- Net Zero Ready previously called Zero Net Energy will come in 2030 for residential and 2040 for commercial.
- The green economy will create jobs.
- High support for PV panels, but limited support for use in gas consumption reduction.
- Advocacy for better rebate programs since currently many do not cover much of the costs.
- In the future Climate Action Plans, goals will be connected to the general plan for implementation. Future CAPs should focus on adaptation and hazards associated with global warming. Future CAPs may be CEQA (California Environmental Quality Act) exempt.
- Litigation around CEQA: unenforceable of unfunded measures, voluntary measures, and arbitrary thresholds for significance and short term reductions for long term increases in carbon dioxide reductions.
- Insurance has taken a positive role in climate change issues, Ebel hopes a partnership can be made for funding opportunities.
- Ebel mentioned having a small demonstration farm in Brisbane may offer carbon credits as Sonoma is receiving credits for their farm.
- The Los Angeles sheriff's department may test Tesla as a police vehicle; it is believed that savings will add up to $20,000 over 7 years.
- BAAQMD is working to catalogue measures from every CAP.
- Ebel collected sources to add to the sustainability webpage.
- Ebel would like to request items for next agenda: title 24 training on chapter 11, copy of the Environmental purchasing guide, and writing legislation for CAP measures.

4. Climate Action Plan review and recommendation to City Council
- Salmon would like for this document to be enforceable.
- Staff will go through changes of the document since meeting with the subcommittee and OSEC liaisons.
- Fieldman feels there are items that should be taken to the County.
- Commercial energy use disclosure is required by law for buildings 10,000 square feet or above.
- Several OSEC members feel the plan should use stronger language.

- Kinser explained funding has to be taken into consideration, requiring businesses to do an energy audit can cost thousands of dollars. Requirements placed on businesses can make them decide to move or sue the city. Fieldman added this is an item best pursued at the County level.

- Fieldman asked about items that have been brought to RICAPS meetings. Kinser replied items have been discussed but no actions have been taken before a plan has been adopted.

Energy measures:

- 3.1.1 B. Fieldman would like to add door-to-door information. Salmon would like programs to be vetted.

- 3.1.1 C. Salmon would like to lower 20 units to 4 units. Kinser said this was adopted previously and cannot be changed in this document, it will have to be a recommendation and the Title 24 requirements cover it with any new construction.

- Salmon suggested a few word changes.

- 3.1.1 E. Is modeled after the sewer line ordinance.

- Staff will send the Environmental purchasing guide to OSEC.

3.2 Water measures

- The city has been reaching out to the community when misuse of water is reported.

3.3 Solid waste measures

- Ebel would like to add garage sale from Friends of the Brisbane library.

- Fieldman suggests links to Craigslist and Free cycle on the city website.

- Salmon would like controls on 3.3.1 D and construction. Kinser said there is a construction debris ordinance. Salmon would like to add code enforcement.

- Zero waste has now been changed to 95% waste reduction.

3.4 Sustainable streets/ transportation

- Sustainable streets have been renamed to Road emissions/ transportation as to not confuse with NPDES requirements that with street and parking lot runoff.

- Potential preferred parking for electric vehicles has been added.

- It is difficult to verify how many employees will be local, council liaisons do not want to move forward with the measure. It has been redrafted to provide incentives rather than a decreased business license cost.

3.5 All sector measures

- The County Green Business program is now available to cities in San Mateo County, free of participation cost.

4.6 Actively create partnerships with the County to reach these goals

- Added requiring energy audits to commercial properties.

- Salmon asked when OSEC can have a copy of the CAP with edits. Kinser said she hopes to have this draft recommended to council. The edits will then be implemented and sent out before the September 17 City Council meeting.

- Other edits: added 2010 data where applicable, added a list of definitions and updated appendices to be more current.
- Salmon proposed a few edits for charts, figures and tables.
- Ebel suggested some language changes.

-Keogh motions to recommend the CAP to City Council with changes made. Fieldman seconds. All OSEC members agree.

5. Subcommittee reports

a. Community Festival

- Keogh met with the videographer. The videographer requested some items for day of such as shade and chairs. Open ended questions need to be determined for interviews.
- Keogh will get a copy of the EIR from Salmon.

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

- Abney is not present. Comments have been forwarded to him to implement. This letter will be discussed next meeting.

c. OSEC library shelf

- The shelf that the OSEC materials were placed on was determined not to be safe for books. The shelf will be relocated.

6. Staff updates:

a. Street tree watering

- Kinser mentioned all the areas of where trees are being watered: Sierra Point, entrance to Crocker Park, near City Hall, along Visitacion Ave., along San Bruno Ave., entrance to Brisbane along Tunnel Ave., Bayshore Blvd. and trees in Community Park. Davey and Humboldt tree services are contracted to do this work.

- Fieldman feels staff should solicit recommendations from the tree services if anything more should be done and take recommendations to council.

b. Monterey Pines

- The chamber of commerce will do outreach to a property manager for removal of a Monterey Pine on Valley Drive.

- Vladimirova will email a list of trees to staff.

c. Peninsula Sunshares numbers

- Most recent number are from mid- August, there are 10 sign ups in Brisbane, out of 106 in the county**.**

d. Lagoon cleanup day

- Lagoon cleanup day is September 19 from 9am – 12pm, meet at Fisherman's Park.
- Free t-shirts and bbq lunch.
- Bring reusable water bottles, sturdy shoes, appropriate clothing and sunscreen.

e. Schedule next OSEC meeting

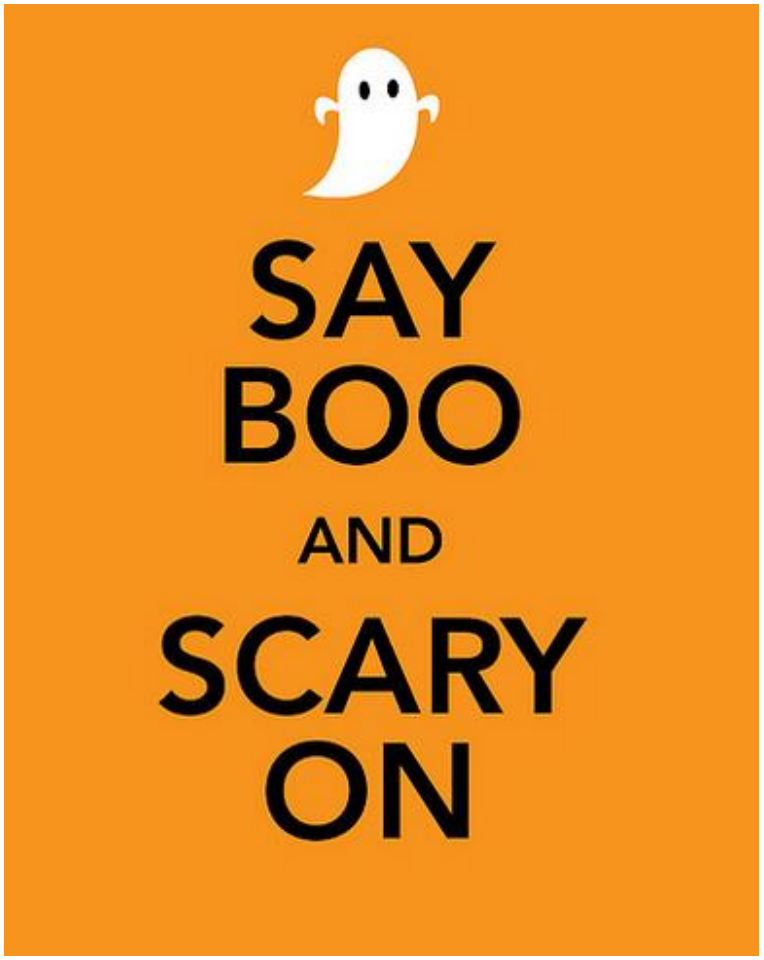
- Kinser explained that Muñoz has a class conflict on Wednesdays and if OSEC members can move to Tuesday meetings until December. OSEC members agreed to move the meeting to Tuesday nights.
- Potentially there will be a liaison meeting in October.

7. Approval of the minutes

- Salmon has one edit, change "composted" to "composed" under 6b.
- Minutes approved.

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.



Adjournment

Happy Halloween!

Next OSEC meeting will be November 17th.