

**OPEN SPACE & ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

February 20, 2019 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Called to order at 6:36 PM.

Committee members present: Ebel, Rogers, Ankenbruck, Salmon
Committee members absent: Fieldman, Dykes
Staff members present: Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser
Sustainability Management Analyst Etherton
Engineering Technician Sage

- 1. Roll call**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda**
Adopted.
- 3. Oral Communications (public comment)***
None. Between items 4 & 5, attendee Deb introduced herself as an applicant for the open seat.
- 4. Transportation Survey – Complete Street Safety Committee Member Patrick Tainter**
Tainter introduced CSSC’s proposed survey and provided background on the committee’s interest in evaluating commutes into and out of the city. The group reviewed the survey questions and flowchart. Numerous improvements were discussed and will be incorporated by staff, including multi-modal transportation options and barriers, accessibility concerns, and a section for students. Members also suggested working with the Senior Center and Library to have the online survey with assistance available for those that may require it.
- 5. Approval of the January minutes**
Salmon and Ebel noted that both had reported on the Oral Communications item; staff will revise. Approved as amended.
- 6. Weed Management Area (WMA)**
 - a. Joining the San Mateo County WMA**
Sage reminded that this item was discussed at the November and December meetings and the committee had directed him to look into the steps to officially

join the WMA. Staff confirmed the process and had shared the Memorandum of Understanding and related attachments with the committee. The committee unanimously agreed to recommend the Council sign on.

b. Signing on to the support letter for state WMA funding

Etherton introduced the letter of support, brought to our attention by Fieldman, from the California Invasive Plants Council encouraging the state legislature to move forward with funding for Weed Management Areas in the 2019-2020 state budget as currently drafted. The committee unanimously agreed to sign on, pending approval from the City Manager or Council as required.

7. Subcommittee reports

- a. Open Space** – Kinser mentioned that she has not heard more from City Attorney about the date at which the Declaration of Open Space for Brisbane Acres is going to Council. Responding to a prior question about Open Space Plan incorporation into the General Plan, she noted it will be considered but the language would have to be carefully crafted since the General Plan is legally binding.
- b. Climate Action Plan** – Ebel reported on the subcommittee’s recent meeting, which included a stakeholder mapping exercise for the commercial benchmarking project and renewed work on the staff training. Etherton suggested the training occur around Earth Day.
- c. Events** – Salmon recounted the February 9 Planting Day with San Bruno Mountain Watch; six participants pulled a significant amount of broom and another 8-10 planted approximately 300 native plants. The subcommittee met in January with Parks & Rec Commissioners and staff to set out the yearly calendar. Salmon also encouraged committee members to consider ideas for Day in the Park; a previous suggestion was a meatless cooking contest though logistics may be challenging so it may be more feasible as a separate potluck event.
- d. Education & Outreach** – Etherton will work to schedule a meeting.
- e. Invasive Species Ordinance** – no news on the Oughta Be a Law application; Etherton will follow up with Senator Hill’s staff.
- f. Festival Tree Replacement** – Salmon and Ankenbruck will follow up with the tree farm.
- g. Lipman Science Fair Judging** – Rogers attended and presented three awards to students with environmental projects.
- h. PCA Grant Application** – Kinser stated that she is writing the letter of interest.
- i. 280 South Hill Funds** – Kinser explained that the recommendation discussed last month will be part of the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) for Council consideration later this spring.
- j. Signboard Replacement** – Kinser mentioned this may also be in the CIP.
- k. Tree Ordinance** – Ebel said the committee met and planning staff Johnson agreed to send her the prior year’s tree removal applications to evaluate what would have occurred under the new standard. Kinser noted that Johnson is

planning to attend next month's meeting to go over the recommended revised ordinance. The ordinance only applies to trees on private properties; next month we will also discuss issues related to public trees. Kinser suggested we continue to provide educational articles about the importance of proper tree care.

I. Liaison to Benchmarking and Transparency Ordinance Project – Dykes absent.

8. Calendar items

The committee reviewed the calendar. Etherton shared that the first benchmarking workshop may be on April 9, to be confirmed. Sage mentioned a hands-on BAWSCA Landscape Class on March 27. Salmon noted the Mission Blue Nursery native plant sale on March 2.

9. Chair and committee member matters

Ebel suggested a reach code on heat pump water heaters; Etherton reported on statewide and regional efforts related to electrification reach codes and market development for heat pump water heaters. Upon inquiry, Kinser also explained the plan for heating the community pool based on the results of the Zero Net Energy study.

10. Staff updates

Etherton:

- Provided additional updates on the Benchmarking Ordinance project, including the kickoff meeting on Jan 30, an introduction to the Chamber Board provided earlier in the day, and that the consultant was developing a market analysis.
- OSEC 2018 Accomplishments were presented to Council on January 17.
- Costaños Canyon Adopt a Spot station was installed and additional trash bins recently received so other locations will roll out soon.
- The County Office of Sustainability launched a Climate Ready San Mateo County Collaborative on Jan 30 focused on climate adaptation & resilience for other impacts besides Sea Level Rise (i.e. heat, wildfire), similar to their SeaChange SMC program. Etherton, CM Holstine and Council Member Lentz attended the launch and Etherton will continue to participate in future meetings.
- Last fall, Peninsula Clean Energy encouraged local jurisdictions to apply for recognition as an EPA Green Power Community; we have just received confirmation of our status for 2019. PCE will be coordinating countywide marketing for the recognition and signage will be posted in locations TBD.

Kinser:

- C/CAG is working on a countywide Green Infrastructure (GI) modeling project to inform a Sustainable Streets Plan that identifies ideal locations for GI; staff is preparing requested data for inclusion.

- A contractor replaces burned out streetlights every couple of months; in their upcoming service, they will trial different LED lights and temperatures at the Northeast Ridge. Ebel requested they be placed such that different options could be viewed from one location for easier comparison.
- Will sit on a panel on Reach Codes at a March 7 BayREN Regional Forum.
- Working on Green Infrastructure design as part of Safe Pedestrian Routes to School project we are hoping to build this construction season. Set up meeting with design consultant and Mission Blue Nursery regarding plants for the sites.
- The Guadalupe Channel Erosion Control Project is pre-70% design. Need Army Corps and Fish and Wildlife permits so likely not until next construction season.
- Met with someone from Johnson Controls regarding performance contracting.
- Participated in a Commute.org board orientation with Associate Engineer Yuen.

Committee inquiries:

- Salmon asked if Bi-Rite would consider sharing their solar data to help promote going solar; Etherton will reach out to ask if they will do so voluntarily.
- Ebel inquired about funding for the community garden; it will again be included in the Capital Improvement Projects list for council consideration of funding.
- Ebel asked for an update on outreach to YAC; staff will follow up with Park & Rec staff for the committee.
- Ebel asked about a Weed Management Area display; Sage will look into it.

11. Next meeting date: March 20, 2019 6:30 PM

12. Adjourned at 8:50 PM.

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