

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 6:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

Brisbane City Hall

50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:

Vice chair Abney called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM.

Committee members present:

Abney, Fieldman, Hayuk, Keogh, Salmon and Vladimirova.

Committee members absent:

Ebel

Staff members present:

Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser

Management Analyst Muñoz

1. Adoption of the agenda

- Agenda adopted.

2. Oral communications

- N/A

3. Chair and Committee members matters

- Salmon has two announcements: San Bruno Mountain Watch is looking for a volunteer/ unpaid internship. Sunday August 9, SBMW plant sale and pancake breakfast.
- Fieldman: SB 185 CA retirements and teachers' retirement to divest from coal stocks is making its way to the state senate.

4. Review of draft EAP outline measures

- Kinser gave background on the development of the Environmental Action Plan. Ebel and Fieldman are on the subcommittee. The EAP will deal with water conservation and solid waste, but not land use issues.
- Fieldman is drafting the introduction.
- The next step is to set up a council study session. The document will be a living document and changes made as needed.
- DNV-GL consultants have been assisting staff with gathering data and GHG reduction calculations.
- The measures, when implemented will help reach the GHG emissions reduction goal of 15% by 2020.
- This plans measures are meant to be implemented within the next 5 years, starting with low hanging fruit for implementation.

- Fieldman discussed previous efforts on the Climate Action Plan. Items that were included in the previous draft are in this current draft.
- Committee members would like to know assumptions made for the GHG emission reduction estimates. Kinser said these calculations are order of magnitude calculations, more data was recently sent from staff to the consultants to refine the calculations.
- The committee would like examples of relatable information, so the average person can understand what metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents means.
- Fieldman would like to add the aggregate amount and target reductions of GHG emissions.
- Sonoma and Marin have been successful in implementing CCA. San Mateo County is conducting a feasibility study for CCA. Brisbane has agreed to give their PG&E data for the study.
- Salmon would like for timers or motion sensors to be placed on the fields and tennis court lighting. Fieldman suggested a lighting ordinance; one example is from the Illuminating Engineering Society of North America.
- Kinser said some lighting is to prevent crime. Many lights have been retrofitted to LEDs. Abney said his children feel there is not enough lighting for walking at night.
- Abney asked why the city hall does not have solar panels. Kinser discussed the history of why the city does not have solar panels, the city has yet to find a good fit for economic and energy feasibility.
- Staff is currently working on an EV charging grant from BAAQMD.
- Salmon asked about car share being used. Kinser said it is mainly used on weekend. Salmon said it should be publicized and should be included in the plan.
- Salmon asked about increasing the tax on trucks that do not use environmentally preferred fuels. Fieldman said this may be difficult to regulate due to varieties of biodiesel produced and the sources it comes from.
- Fieldman suggests implementing grey water requirements for new buildings.
- Salmon does not think that landscape water is not the worst use of water, watering trees is very important for the local ecology. Fieldman said she has witnessed in other cities that their street trees are dead and will have to be removed. Vladimirova adds that landscape water needs to be smarter, more focused for watering trees and not the lawn.
- Salmon would like to have a pick-up day when fabric waste can be thrown away.
- Hayuk suggests a permitting system for disposal of organic yard waste.
- Hayuk suggests before consideration of banning gas powered lawn equipment it is important to know the GHG savings, because it will impose a cost on those who have to replace their equipment.
- Several OSEC members felt that the city should participate in the county green business program.
- Committee members suggest limiting the size of single family homes instead of having a lottery to convert homes to duplexes.

- The working population is approximately 8,000 people and the residential population is approximately 4,300. It would be difficult to have 50% of the workforce live in Brisbane. Vladimirova suggests surveying how people get to work.
- The next step is to set up the council study session.

5. Approval of the minutes

- Minutes approved.
- Salmon would like an update on the lot coverage letter that she wrote.

6. Discuss opposition of fracking

- Item moved to next meeting.

7. Discuss Mackin email communication

- Kinser gave the background that the Complete Streets Safety Committee wanted to require San Bruno Mountain native plants on streetscapes. Staff did not want to narrow to just San Bruno Mountain natives, it would be more reasonable to have it for an option. Their recommendation will go to council for final approval. OSEC is being asked to support Mackin's suggestion.
- Salmon has made a motion to support the language in the letter, seconded by Hayuk.
- Staff will look into the process on how to relay the support.

8. Subcommittee reports

a. Education and Outreach

- Salmon would like to do video shorts about sustainability during Day in the Park.
- Fieldman suggests a contest for kids to submit their videos.

i. Sustainability webpage

- Updates have been recently made to the website.

ii. OSEC library shelf

- Keogh gave the update that the library display is up. Library staff is working on the display and will be announced on social media.

9. Staff updates

Title 24 training

- Muñoz was contacted by San Mateo County, if there was interest in holding training. San Mateo County staff also mentioned Daly City was going to have training. Muñoz expressed interest in the joint effort, she has not been told a date for the training yet.

Review of OSEC workplan

- OSEC work plan will be reviewed next meeting.

June habitat restoration day

- June 27 at Firth Canyon. Staff has done all the outreach and coordination.

SMCEW challenge

- The San Mateo County Energy Watch Challenge is a program to provide energy audits to small businesses. Letters were sent out announcements posted on the sign board and social media sites.

Baylands FEIR copies available

- Copies are available either electronically or hard copy.

Plastic bag recycling

- South San Francisco Scavenger as a part of the franchise agreement gave a plastic bag recycling bin. It is located at the post office. The recycling requirements are on the city website.

10. Adjournment

- Muñoz will be out of town for the OSEC meeting in August. An email will be sent out to reschedule the regular meeting date.