

OPEN SPACE AND ECOLOGY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Tuesday, September 8, 2015 6:30 PM

Community Meeting Room

Brisbane City Hall

50 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.

- At the conference high support for PV panels was shown, 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 will 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 about home energy upgrades. Salmon would like these energy upgrade 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.