

**OPEN SPACE & ECOLOGY COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

October 17, 2018 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Called to order at 6:45 PM.

Committee members present: Ebel, Salmon, Rogers, Treyz, Fieldman (7:11)
Committee members absent: Ankenbruck, Dykes
Staff members present: Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser
Sustainability Management Analyst Etherton
Engineering Technician Sage

Public Present: Teresa Montgomery, presenter, South San Francisco Scavenger Company

- 1. Roll call**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda**
Agenda adopted.
- 3. Oral Communications (public comment)***
- 4. Presentation on Annual Waste Diversion Efforts – Teresa Montgomery, South San Francisco Scavenger**
Montgomery reported that Brisbane’s 2017 diversion rate was 79%; the state’s goal for jurisdictions is 75%. Committee members asked what would get us to the high 80’s; Montgomery responded that improving/increasing composting, including at multi-family facilities, is one opportunity.

Montgomery reported on China’s National Sword policy which restricts contamination in cardboard, paper and low-grade plastics to <0.5% and reduces their overall product intake down to ~40% of previous levels; other countries and facilities are not able to pick up the excess and recyclables are ending up in the landfill more often. Scavenger is stepping up education efforts, increasing staff and slowing the sort line as a result; additionally, their product is more likely to be accepted because their multi-stream recyclables are cleaner than other locales with mixed recycling. Additional suggestions for consumers included “reduce, reuse, recycle, rot—in that order” and choosing glass or metal over plastic.

Salmon noted the dumpsters at the Marina are challenging to use due to locked lids with small openings. Montgomery will work with city staff to try to find a workable solution. She will also bring Trash bin stickers to city hall.

5. Approval of the August minutes

Minutes approved.

6. Subcommittee reports

- Open Space, Invasive Species Ordinance, Festival Tree, Lipman Science Fair, PCA Grant Application, 280 South Hill Funds and Tree Ordinance – no reports.
- **CAP:** Recent subcommittee meetings have focused on CAP staff training and 2030 CAP measures selection. They also briefly discussed the Sustainable Purchasing Policy and language in the procurement policy which the City is currently updating.
- **Events:** Coastal Cleanup Day on Sept 15th was a big success; the site near Harney Way was a mess when the group of ~23 volunteers arrived and was clear of visible trash when we wrapped up. The OSEC booth at Day in the Park on October 6th featured a “planet flag” art project which was popular with kids, a solar panel display which caught a lot of attention and helped promote SunShares, and the Smart Power Strip giveaway which led to five on-site signups for HomeIntel.
- **Education and Outreach:** The Meatless Monday campaign in the city’s weekly email blast is pairing climate facts with meat-free recipes to promote a shift in diet. The committee has also discussed signage for Adopt a Spot stations.
- **Signboard:** Parks and Rec is getting quotes and another meeting should be scheduled soon.

7. Calendar items

Noted the schedule for remaining 2018 meetings, and that it’s time to start thinking of items for the annual report to council.

8. Chair and committee member matters

None.

9. Global Climate Action Summit reports

Etherton noted a few highlights from events she participated in, including one on Climate Finance which Fieldman and Councilmember Cunningham also attended. Overall the summit was inspiring and there were many major announcements and efforts made, as well as calls for urgency and to “vote for climate”.

10. Staff updates

Etherton:

- Green Business Lunch and Learn with the County on Sept 6th with ~ 12 participants
- BAAQMD grant contract has been executed and the RFP for phase 1 should be sent/posted within a week

- Zero Net Energy (ZNE) study: moving forward with a heat pump water heater for the pool; City Hall was audited for the ZNE study and also had a lighting audit for which we are awaiting on-bill financing approval to fund the upgrades
- Attended a BayREN Reach Codes Best Practices workshop with Ken Johnson from Planning; there are a few opportunities that regional/state organizations are working to get comprehensive cost-effectiveness studies for that would make it easier for us to move forward with a Reach Code
- Attended a Zero Food Waste Forum and will participate in an upcoming county working group on disposable food ware and reducing food waste

Sage:

- Attended a volunteer invasive species training
- Learned that San Mateo County has a Weed Management Area (WMA), a Joint Powers Authority. He attended their meeting which provided good resources and contacts so will attend their bi-monthly meetings going forward. The state Invasive Species Bill passed which created the Invasive Species Council of CA and provided \$2M in statewide funding for the invasive species.
- Hosted a successful BAWSCA Greywater Laundry to Landscape class with a dozen participants held on Sept 26.
- Committee members asked about informing the County of invasive pampas grass on San Bruno Mountain; Sage will follow up with County staff. Salmon requested a status update on Callippe Hill for the next meeting; Kinser will check into it.
- Noted a new Marin County program which used multiple technologies including LIDAR and AI to create very detailed maps with species labeled down to the individual plant. This is in progress in San Mateo County as well.

11. Next meeting date: November 14, 2018 to tour Sol Lux Alpha (685 Florida St, San Francisco), time TBD (5 pm or 6:30)

Tentatively agreed to meet at Brisbane City Hall at 4:15 to carpool to the tour and plan to move to a nearby café or restaurant after the tour for regular committee business. Staff will confirm arrangements by email.

Treyz announced that this will be her last meeting; she is moving to Boulder for work within the next month. The staff and committee thanked her for her contributions and wished her well. Kinser noted that staff will inform Council and get their direction regarding filling the position; since the Complete Streets Safety Committee also had a resignation and we are on an even-year cycle they will likely want to seek applicants to avoid having vacancies for over a year.

12. Adjourned at 8:35 PM.

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