



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. • Virtual Meeting

MEETING SETUP AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO ORDER – 6:38 PM

ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Calmes, Dykes, Ebel, Fieldman, Nunan, Rogers, Salmon

Staff members present: Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Engineering Technician, Sage; Building Efficiency Fellow, Cousar

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to adopt: Salmon, Second: Rogers, Adopted unanimously by roll call vote

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

- Salmon reminded everyone that Mission Blue has plant sales available through MountainWatch.org.
- Fieldman noted a council member asked her who the OSEC member on the Baylands Subcommittee is. Rogers noted a Planning Subcommittee had a recent meeting about a potential Quarry redevelopment and hoped OSEC may have an opportunity to weigh in. Kinser advised that staff has not been directed to make those appointments. The group decided to put off Subcommittee Reorganizations to May.
- Ebel noted a request from the community to have the compost giveaway earlier than in the past to better align with gardening needs; Etherton will reach out to Scavenger to see when they can do it.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to adopt: Salmon, Second: Ebel, all members voted in favor by roll call

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Brisbane Acres Vegetation Management Plan
 - a. Kinser reported on the plan from On Point Land Management, who will report out on the efforts in the fall.
 - b. Fieldman asked about scabiosa by the water tank; it is not listed in the species to be addressed. Kinser suggested this may be a volunteer opportunity.
 - c. Calmes noted sporaxis all over the ridge, a pretty orange bulb that naturalizes easily. Sage noted that area is outside of our jurisdiction, but the County is covering

this area closely since it is prime habitat and has also been hiring On Point Land Management. Salmon noted that previous indications had been that it was not considered a priority invasive species, she will bring this up at the quarterly HCP meeting and request a Wandering Site Activity Permit to address it.

- d. Fieldman asked about the pampas/jubata grass she and Etherton had mapped. Sage had passed along to the County and recalled that the County had tackled jubata on Montara Mountain first and planned to tackle San Bruno Mountain next.
- e. Sage reported that the Weed Management Area was surveying members about who was tackling what species and areas.
- f. Salmon moved approval of the plan, Nunan seconded, and all members voted in favor by roll call.

B. Open Space Presentation – Bob Sage

- a. Sage presented on the 20th Anniversary of the Brisbane Open Space Plan, providing the history of the San Bruno Mountain Habitat Conservation Plan and the 2001 Open Space Plan. He focused on the Brisbane Acres Residential District, prime habitat within the City, within which the city owns 49 parcels/53 acres primarily purchased with grant funds and dedicated to open space.
- b. Sage will be making the presentation to the City Council at their April 1st meeting. The presentation will subsequently be posted to the city's website and is available at: <https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e4c65ed61cf14973a9a06b261bec0e1c>
- c. Upon Ebel's inquiry, Kinser confirmed that the grant-funded parcels are permanently protected and City Council approved a Declaration of Restrictions to further protect those purchased with other funds. Staff is working to dig up deeds and related documents to complete this task.

STAFF UPDATES

A. Sage:

- Received a box of Noxious Weeds flyers from San Mateo County Weed Management Area. Salmon requested some for San Bruno Mountain Watch tabling, as well as some of city's invasive plant brochures.

B. Cousar:

- Reported that the next Building Efficiency Program webinar will be held at 1pm on March 25. Staff and consultants will present to the County RICAPS group on March 23.
- We'll be wrapping up the contract with The Energy Coalition by end March/early April and completing the BAAQMD grant.
- In addition, the team's focus in the next few weeks will be on individual outreach to building owners and the toolkit for other jurisdiction's to replicate the program.

C. Etherton:

- Reported that the March 18th City Council agenda will include EV Charging Station permit streamlining (on consent) and consideration of the Food Ware Ordinance.
- Noted that she will be participating in Sustainable San Mateo County's Happy Hour "Spring into Action: Local Governments & Residents nurturing Sustainability" on March

23rd as one of four local sustainability managers talking about local programs in “lighting” presentations.

- Provided an update on SB1383 implementation: Director Breault will be working with SSF Scavenger to address requirements for containers; she will be working with the County who is taking the lead on edible food requirements and also covering the procurement requirements. Scavenger’s Renewable Natural Gas from compost to fuel their trucks covers a lot, but we may need to fill gap with compost/mulch requirements so she is working with other public works staff to ensure their purchases are compliant. Additionally, we will need to ensure all city paper procurement includes minimum recycled content and begin tracking these purchases. The effective date is Jan 1, 2022.
- Shared that the city is still not planning to host any in-person events, so in lieu of our usual Earth Day Habitat Restoration, she suggested hosting the Climate Jeopardy event originally planned for last March virtually, during our usual meeting time on April 21st. She described a few considerations for planning, including the CAP Subcommittee continuing their previously-started work on questions. Etherton will reach out to Beth Grossman about doing a Climate Reality talk; if she is not available, Fieldman can give a short presentation.
 - After discussion and new information shared about the ability to host an in-person event if the County moves into the yellow tier, the group agreed to begin planning for and registering groups of up to 10 attendees for morning and afternoon sessions of habitat restoration. Sage will follow up with Ariel from Mountain Watch. If we are not in the yellow tier by the event date, we will not hold it.
 - Salmon moved to host the Climate Jeopardy event, starting the game at 7pm and welcoming people at 6:30; Ebel seconded, and all members in favor by roll call.
 - Etherton reported that a public comment was submitted by Erin Becker, who was in attendance on the Zoom webinar, suggesting that another alternative to celebrate Earth Day was to provide the compost giveaway at that time; the committee liked the idea and Etherton will suggest this timing to Scavenger.

D. Kinser:

- Tunnel Road – developer restriped center line and added edgeline, City will add signage that cyclists are allowed full use of the lane
- Submitted grant application for County 4Rs grant for a water bottle filling station in the Police Department
- Peninsula Clean Energy studying solar and storage at Mission Blue Center to provide resiliency since the facility serves as a city emergency shelter
- Salmon asked about the new library having solar; staff reported that it is solar-ready, as well as energy efficient with a demonstration rain garden.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION (*Subcommittee leads in **bold**; *ad hoc*)

- Open Space (Rogers, **Salmon**) – Kinser noted that the Open Space presentation today being provided to City Council was laying the foundation for bringing them updates; Salmon requested a meeting be scheduled.
- Climate Action Plan (Dykes, Ebel, Fieldman) – meeting next week

- Events (Rogers, Salmon) – Salmon requested we pick a date for a summer habitat restoration day in June & also begin preparing for the Recycled Arts & Crafts Contest to launch around Earth Day with a promo in the weekly email blast and a May STAR article
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, **Rogers**) – no updates from the subcommittee; Rogers noted that someone is building a skate ramp in the vee ditch adjacent along Quarry Road within the County jurisdiction – Kinser suggested she submit a SeeClickFix request; Salmon noted tire tracks in Owl plain – Sage will send County Public Works contact information for them to report it
- Invasive Species Ordinance (Ebel, Salmon, Fieldman) – committee members commended Fieldman on her broom article; Kinser noted that she and Sage met to prepare and will set up a subcommittee meeting
- Dark Skies Ordinance (Dykes, **Ebel**, Salmon) – Ebel noted the survey and article are out, scheduled to close on April 1; Etherton will reach out to schedule a meeting in early April
- Sierra Point Park Planning* (Ebel) – no update
- Crocker Trail Master Plan* (Rogers) – consulting group showed draft plan which will be presented to Council tomorrow evening for review before finalizing
- Tree Issues* (**Ebel**, Rogers, Salmon) – Mary will categorize the list Ebel provided into areas and subsequently reach out to schedule subcommittee meeting
- Festival Tree* (Salmon, Rogers, Dykes) – met with Park & Rec subcommittee members; will replace the tree. Salmon & Rogers will place a stake where they would like to locate it and other committee members can go by to view the location. Kinser noted Davey Tree is trying to source a tree, consulting with other nurseries; they are looking to plant it at the beginning of the next rainy season. Calmes recommended planting a smaller tree, no larger than 24” box.
- Benchmarking Ordinance* (Dykes) – will remove this from the subcommittee roster and cover by CAP Subcommittee as needed, since it is mostly covered by staff updates now.
- Lipman Science Fair Judging* (Ebel, **Rogers**) – There were 11 participants in the virtual science fair, with two participants focused on environmental issues which were very impressive and well thought-out. Decided to give both students a Gold Award. Sage created certificates, which Mary will frame and drop off at the school.

CALENDAR ITEMS

Etherton added a column for STAR Articles. We will move subcommittee reorganization to May, and also discuss schedule for STAR articles then. Fieldman recommended an article in August or September about ocean pollution to coincide with Coastal Cleanup Day. Ebel suggested an article on the Open Space plan.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS

Salmon thanked staff for their work and dedication. Rogers thanked Fieldman for her recommendation of “Ministry of the Future” and encouraged others to also read it.

NEXT MEETING: Climate Jeopardy event on April 21, 2021

ADJOURNMENT – 8:28 PM