



CITY *of* BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 19, 2021 at 6:30 P.M. • Virtual Meeting

MEETING SETUP AND INTRODUCTION

CALL TO ORDER – 6:33 PM

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members present: Dykes, Calmes, 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: Ebel, Second: Fieldman, Adopted unanimously by roll call vote

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion to adopt March and April 2021 Minutes: Nunan, Second: Ebel, Adopted unanimously by roll call vote; Salmon abstained from the April minutes approval as she was absent

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Climate Emergency Declaration
 - a. Ebel introduced the draft resolution as an overarching commitment to the city's climate goals. Fieldman added that a number of CA cities have adopted Climate Emergency Declarations which aim to change the messaging to emphasize that climate change is a serious crisis requiring immediate attention.
 - b. Nunan and Rogers commended the CAP Subcommittee for their draft.
 - c. The committee discussed the goals in the declaration, which are stretch goals that are more advanced than current state and national goals, and the staff and other resources needed to meet them.
 - d. Salmon moved to recommend the declaration to the City Council and Nunan seconded; adopted unanimously by roll call vote
- B. Meeting Schedule – Ebel requested moving to another meeting date besides the 3rd Wednesday. Salmon moved to change to the 1st or 4th Wednesday of the month if the City calendar allows; Nunan seconded and the committee adopted unanimously by roll call vote. Etherton will check the city calendar and confirm.

STAFF UPDATES

- A. Sage:
- Announced that we are holding our first habitat event of the year on June 12th. It will be a weeding event at Buckeye Canyon with registration required and capped at 30 attendees.
 - Reported that he attended a state webinar Fieldman recommended on the 30x30 goal and the governor's budget includes \$2B towards the effort.
- B. Etherton:
- Attended a separate state webinar about the projected \$75B budget surplus and provided an overview of funds expected to go towards climate and environment projects, primarily in the form of grants. She will share a press release with the info.
 - Received notice that we were awarded a County 4Rs Mini-grant to install a water bottle filling station for the Police Dept and supply their staff with reusable water bottles.
 - Signed up for new Peninsula Clean Energy program to assign our Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) credits from the EV Charging Station to them going forward. When we installed the station we looked into taking them but there is a pretty steep learning curve and documentation requirement so we allowed ChargePoint to claim. PCE will keep 60% of credit value for their program administration and to reinvest in transportation electrification projects, and the city will receive 40% of value.
 - Supporting PW Director Breault in drafting two ordinances for SB1383 compliance, one on organics requirements and one on procurement. She is also participating in a County working group on and reviewing an MOU for a County edible food recovery program.
 - Noted the recent Baylands Subcommittee meeting included a presentation from the developer on their proposal to meet the energy neutral goal; staff and Baylands sustainability consultants are discussing whether it meets our definition of net zero.
 - Will collect any articles committee members wish to share with each other throughout the month and send them along with the meeting agendas. Articles should be sent by a week prior to the meeting for inclusion or will be held until the following month, except for urgent items which may be forwarded individually.
- C. Kinser:
- Maintenance team leader confirmed we do have some budget for deep root watering of street trees; open to suggestion for which ones
 - Salmon asked about community members watering trees in front of their homes; the city might consider a program to encourage this and coordinate which trees are watered to receive most coverage
 - Calmes commented that Friends of the Urban Forest used tree bags attached to tree stakes (not to the tree themselves) and community members filled them, often with gray water; Kinser will look into purchasing these as part of this program
 - Received a grant from CalRecycle for rubberized pavement utilizing recycled tires on Sierra Point Parkway from the 101 underpass to Lagoon Rd
- D. Cousar:

- Compliance deadline was May 15th; about half of the buildings have either reported or been granted an extension or exemption, with 36 reported
- The group discussed the program and ways to build on outreach to building representatives, encourage building improvements and understand actions taken as a result of the program. Salmon suggested Cousar's final report include case studies and stories of stakeholder actions and experiences. Rogers will connect staff with a biotech facilities trade group.

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

Salmon asked committee members to commit to active participation and Etherton provided an overview of committee structure.

- Open Space (Rogers, **Salmon**) – Committee is to review and make recommendations on an update to the 2001 Open Space Plan and advise on Brisbane Acres preservation. Nunan will be added to the committee.
- Climate Action Plan (Dykes, Ebel, Fieldman) – focus in on implementation of the existing Climate Action Plan, future updates to the plan.
- Events (Rogers, Salmon) – works with staff and Park and Rec Commissioners on habitat restoration events, worked on the Recycled Arts and Crafts Contest last year, and plans Day in the Park (though all committee members are asked to help out in the booth at the event).
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, Rogers) – works on educational content including the OSEC library display and hopes to have a space in the new library as well. Rogers noted that she had visited the new library and library staff had plans to follow up with Etherton. Nunan will join.
- Invasive Species Ordinance (Ebel, Salmon, Fieldman) – working with Kinser and Sage to draft an ordinance; Salmon plans to draft some content on conditions for top six species of concern and review the wildfire mitigation ordinance for additional content. Ebel will drop off of the committee and Calmes will join.
- Dark Skies Ordinance (Dykes, **Ebel**, Salmon) – ordinance was drafted but survey feedback needs to be incorporated, particularly addition of residential.
- Baylands Subcommittee (Dykes, Rogers) – some uncertainty about the structure of this committee and OSEC members' ongoing participation
- *Sierra Point Park Planning (Ebel) – very brand new committee that has not started yet
- *Crocker Trail Master Plan (Rogers) – this group is wrapping up their work since the master plan draft has been presented and the final version is expected to go to City Council in June
 - Rogers asked if Quarry Road is planned for resurfacing; Kinser noted that the federal grant for Crocker Trail resurfacing was received prior to the Master Plan even starting and it was not included. Rogers said community input was to repave so there may be some expectation by community members that it will be. Salmon, Rogers and others encouraged City staff to look into maintenance in the near term.
- *Tree Issues (**Ebel**, Rogers, Salmon) – committee has drafted a proposed charter for a city Technical Advisory Committee on tree issues; the committee's goal is to support the

tree canopy and support overall tree health in the city. Rogers will step down and Calmes will join.

- *Festival Tree (Salmon, Rogers) – Salmon expressed interest in dropping from this committee; Calmes will join.
- *Lipman Science Fair Judging (Ebel, **Rogers**) – committee judges Lipman Science Fair entries for environmental projects and awards OSEC awards
- *Beautification – with Council and others, on hold during Covid
- *280 South Hill Funds – also permanent hold
- *PCA Grant Application – Association of Bay Area Governments allows jurisdictions to designate Priority Conservation Areas, which was done several years ago for San Bruno Mountain, and then apply for funding for those areas in a 4-year cycle—roughly mid-cycle on this currently.

CALENDAR ITEMS

- Salmon reported that Mountain Watch will have their Pancake Breakfast September 12.
- The group discussed the summer meeting schedule. Tentatively planned to continue with the third Wednesday in June (16th), meet for a hike of the Brisbane Acres on July 14th (pending confirmation), and transition to the first or fourth Wednesday in August.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS

None. The group took a new committee photo / screenshot.

NEXT MEETING: June 16, 2021

ADJOURNMENT – 8:54 PM