



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

CALL TO ORDER – 6:32 PM

ROLL CALL

- A. Consider any request of a committee member to attend the meeting remotely under the “Emergency Circumstances” of AB 2449

Committee members present: Becker, Calmes, Ebel (7:00), Fieldman, Nunan, Rogers, Salmon

Staff members present: Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Nunan moved to adopt the agenda and Salmon seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – Salmon announced a native plant sale at Mission Blue Nursery on Saturday March 2.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- B. Minutes of January 24, 2024 – Rogers moved to adopt the agenda and Becker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously with Nunan abstaining due to his absence.

NEW BUSINESS

- C. San Bruno Mountain celebration event in May – Salmon provided background and noted Fieldman’s suggestion of a hike in the slide area as well as community member questions regarding irrigation being installed as part of a restoration project. The committee discussed who could lead such an event and whether to host something during this time competing with other events or potentially at another time. The events subcommittee will investigate and bring back a recommendation next month.
- D. Input on BayREN Single Family Program redesign – Alero Moju, Sustainability Specialist with County of San Mateo Office of Sustainability and County Representative to BayREN
- Moju and colleague Alhad Dighe introduced themselves and Moju provided background on BayREN, their programs and funding source, results in 2023, goals for the single family program redesign and proposed design
 - Committee members asked questions about the costs of improvements and program budget, contractor qualifications and availability, what services the “concierge” would provide and whether it ought to have a different name, how the program would be marketed, relationship to and integration with other programs, target populations, and opportunities for renters and/or landlords. The group provided feedback across these areas, with some ultimately feeling the target and approach would be a good fit for the

Brisbane community and others feeling that the program details were not fleshed out enough.

E. Invasive Species letters to local nurseries

- Becker and Fieldman introduced the letter and provided context. Committee members provided input on the letter and potential additions, including handouts, pictures, and alphabetizing the plant list by the scientific name rather than common name.
- Etherton displayed the list of nurseries to send the letter to, and the group discussed potential changes to the list as well as how to get the attention of nursery managers, including sending the letter via certified mail and visiting the facilities in person.
- An ad hoc subcommittee of Calmes, Becker and Fieldman will further modify the letter, which will be sent via certified mail.
- Etherton will send out the nursery list, including a column for in-person visits; committee members will send back suggested additions/edits and volunteer for places they can visit.

STAFF UPDATES

Etherton:

- Shared that the Climate Corps Fellow starts on Tuesday March 5th!
- PlanIT Geo staff will be starting the public tree inventory in late March.
- The pool heating electrification project concept plans were received; the updated designs and cost estimate are expected by early April. Peninsula Clean Energy's government facility electrification grant/loan application is expected to open in March.
- The February RICAPS meeting focused on reach codes.
- Salmon asked when the EIR for the Quarry Development would be available; Etherton though she had heard late spring but wasn't certain. Staff will update when we have information.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Lipman Science Fair – Rogers reported back about the science fair. OSEC made four awards and an honorable mention. Rogers framed their certificates and announced the winners from the stage, including describing their projects relation to climate change or other environmental issues.
- Events (Rogers, Salmon, Nunan) – Salmon noted the successful habitat event on February 3 with about 30 attendees that planted lupine seeds and pulled broom. Fieldman noted she tried to sign up a few days ahead but couldn't register due to it being full; Salmon responded that she had discussed that with Ariel, and he would loosen that in the future.
- Education and Outreach (Fieldman, Rogers) – Rogers reported the committee met to discuss the library display and a campaign to combat litter, including purchasing grabbers to either give away or borrow. Etherton needs to investigate how grant funds could be used for that purchase; Becker noted if grabbers are available before May they could be used in a potential San Bruno Mountain event. Rogers also noted the litter posters; Etherton updated that communications staff had made some requested

revisions and included the revised version in the Star before it went to print but was awaiting subcommittee feedback before distributing more broadly.

- *Building Decarbonization (Becker, Ebel, Fieldman) – Hasn't met, staff is working through next steps on reach codes. Etherton will email the subcommittee with updates and we can schedule a meeting at that time if we are going to proceed.
- *Open Space Plan Update (Calmes, Rogers, Salmon) – Salmon reported that she, Rogers and Kinser met to review proposed online updates regarding the Priority Preservation Area. Kinser is looking into whether the letters to property owners can be sent from OSEC, and also sent requested materials to the subcommittee just before the meeting.
- *Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Rogers, Nunan, Calmes) – Kinser reported that the drainage changes made don't seem to be working, and she has requested to meet with the property owner about the changes to be made further east but hasn't heard back yet.
- *Invasive Species Ordinance (Becker, Fieldman, Nunan) – Kinser noted she's working with the city attorney on the changes.
- *Dark Skies Ordinance (Becker, Ebel, Salmon) – Becker noted she's seen some of the outreach materials and website that staff has worked on, she and Ebel requested a meeting to talk further about outreach. Etherton noted some public feedback being received that indicated expectations around changes being made very soon that may take some time to actually require compliance; code enforcement indicated a willingness to share complaints with property owners and encourage "being a good neighbor" and addressing them sooner than compliance would require.
- *Tree Issues (Calmes, Ebel, Salmon) – Ebel is unlikely to be able to join the PlanIT Geo training unless it is on a weekend or perhaps an evening; Nunan will step in as backup.
- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – staff was not sure of the EIR timeline but expects it will not be simultaneous with the Quarry EIR.

CALENDAR ITEMS – the group briefly reviewed the calendar. Becker asked about the cancellation in June; Etherton noted she will be at the CA Climate and Energy Collaborative's annual forum.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS – none.

NEXT MEETING: March 27, 2024

ADJOURNMENT – 8:38 PM