

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON AND OPEN SPACE & ECOLOGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, November 10, 2015 6:30 PM
Community Meeting Room
Brisbane City Hall
50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA 94005

Call to order:

Hayuk called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm.

Committee members present:

Ebel, Fieldman, Hayuk, Keogh and Vladimirova.

Committee members absent:

Abney and Salmon

City Council –OSEC liaisons present:

Council member Liu
Council member Miller

Staff members present:

City Manager Holstine
Deputy Director of Public Works Kinser
Management Analyst Escoffier

1. Adoption of the agenda

- Agenda adopted.

2. Oral Communications*

- N/A

3. Chair and committee member matters

-Ebel would like OSEC members to refer to the CAP for ideas to implement.

4. Subcommittee reports

a. Parkside at Brisbane Village Precise Plan Stakeholder meeting update

- Hayuk attended a workshop with committee representatives from other committees and consultants.
- Sustainability and zero net energy development were discussed.
- Previous workshops were shared, which displayed different opinions.
- There was conversation of extending Visitacion Ave. to Bayshore Blvd. for direct access into town.
- The Caltrain station could better serve the town if relocated.
- Hayuk can send the original jpeg to members for better clarity.
- Fieldman would like to know if there is a plan for Crocker Park.

- Hayuk mentioned a community member listed “Live work lofts” as an option. Ebel mentioned there are different types of live work lofts.
- Keogh and Ebel attended the pop up event about the plan.
- Vladimirova feels Crocker Park is underutilized.

b. Education and outreach: Consider sustainability workshops

- Ebel and Keogh discussed the possibility of holding sustainability workshops before the Community Festival.
- Ebel shared some results of the survey, exact results are not tallied: Many people that came by the booth at Community festival took the survey, people were interested in evenings for about an hour, people wanted it to be free or five dollars, and people were interested in a variety of topics.
- Ebel and Keogh wanted to determine general interest in workshops from the community.
- Fieldman asked what money earned would be used for, possibly guest speakers.
- Ebel will make a spreadsheet with responses entered.
- Vladimirova suggests recording sustainability workshops and posting them online.
- Kinser asked the subcommittee to meet with staff when the idea begins to solidify and will be an Education and Outreach activity.
- Ebel suggests the workshops can have high visibility on the Park and Recreation program.

- The OSEC library shelf is back up. Library staff asked for signage and a Beacon award sticker. Ebel will touch base with them to determine what is needed from the city.

5. Approval of the minutes

- Ebel and Fieldman had corrections. Bio blitz not Bio glitz. Ebel also mentioned the lawn at Day in the Park was saturated.
- Ebel wanted to clarify the water reductions for Brisbane. Kinser explained that Brisbane is a small water producer, which means the state places Brisbane in a different reduction category. Brisbane chose to implement a two-day a week watering schedule.
- Minutes approved.

6. Staff updates:

Bike pedestrian master plan representative

- A consultant was hired to plan for a bike/ pedestrian master plan; Kinser would like to ask for a representative from OSEC to review the plan. Hayuk would like to volunteer.

Title 24/ Chapter 11 Green Building Standards

- The county will continue to update staff on future trainings to invite OSEC members and the community.
- There could be a training hosted in Brisbane in the future.

Community Garden

- Kinser will look into possible sites.
- Keogh asked if the current garden could be extended.
- Ebel said the garden would be difficult to extend due to ADA requirements, due to a conversation with a community member.
- Ebel asked how long the wait list is, it is important to determine the demand for a plot.

Invasive species articles

- The next invasive species article will be in the December Star.

Deep root watering

- Hydrant flush water has been used to water local trees.
- Humboldt tree services and Davey tree has been working with the city to water these trees.
- This project was originally funded for six months; further watering may have to be approved by City Council.

Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment

- San Mateo County wanted volunteers to be on a public engagement committee.
- An email has been circulated to OSEC members.
- Fieldman suggests circulating this email to the community.

Composting at City Hall

- Composting began last Friday at City Hall. Paper towels in the restroom will be composted and food scraps in the kitchen. Other municipal sites are being considered for composting.
- Kinser suggested a survey a year later about composting.
- Fieldman suggests counting number of bins picked up for four weeks.
- Liu suggests going to community meetings to educate about composting, such as the Lions Club.

SM Co Energy Watch Small Business outreach for 2016

- The program is aimed toward truly hard to reach businesses.
- The criteria for a hard to reach business are: English as a second language or not as the primary language, lease or rent the facility, and under 20 Kw energy use or staff of 10 or less.
- Outreach will be done to encourage increasing the energy efficiency of these businesses.

Recycle Works Volunteer Academy

- Sustainability webinars and courses given by local experts.
- The first webinar is on November 18 from 5:30-7:30 pm.

Update on the following letters: Brisbane Acres lot coverage, Permeable pavements and paving of lots letter

- Kinser has completed editing the Paving of lots letter.
- The letters have been emailed to OSEC to send any comments to staff before Hayuk signs them.

Methane/ PG&E update

- The follow up information has not been received.

Trash can on Quarry Rd.

- Kinser said the county cleaned the trash on the road.
- If the trash continues to accumulate, there may be a case for placing a trash can out there.

Placing Freecycle and Craigslist on the city website

- Will be discussed next meeting.

Recycling of toner cartridges

- The city does recycle cartridges.

Sustainable purchasing policy

- The brand endorsement issue will be addressed when the policy has been finalized next year.

7. Review of the work plan

- Kinser said this meeting can be used to review the work plan and for liaisons to give feedback and OSEC to ask questions.

- Hayuk asked about the plan of Day in the Park and OSEC participation. Liu feels it is a great opportunity to educate the community on what OSEC is working on. Miller said the roll of OSEC is to educate the public, and it is a good activity for OSEC and is effective.

- Liu suggests a Community Choice Energy (CCE) representative would be good for next year, to educate people about the program.

- Fieldman asked for advice on how to push the Climate Action Plan (CAP) forward.

- Kinser answered the work plan lists what could potential be done within a year. The committee will bring items such as ordinances individually to city council. Miller said staff will create the language, OSEC will make suggestions, and then it will be brought to council. The plan has been conceptually approved by City Council. Kinser added a subcommittee could do this work.

- Fieldman asked how items could be moved to the county level. Miller said the committee could work through staff and to ask council to move forward on items.

- Kinser added staff meet with a county working group each month, Kinser mentioned she has passed on some items. The executive director of Sustainable San Mateo, a non-profit took note of some issues Kinser mentioned.

- Kinser asked the liaisons how to involve at-risk youth in implementing the plan. Fieldman would like to include those that are not normally represented, to form a more diverse implementation subcommittee. Miller suggests collaborating with the school district. Fieldman also suggests Paul Bouscal as a contact for youth.

- Fieldman asked if council is in support of a roll out event of the CAP. Miller suggests ideas for outreach: social media, insert in the water bill, The Luminary etc.

- Fieldman would like to educate the community about climate issues and the CAP. This would hopefully encourage community members to make upgrades to their home. Liu suggests creating a short video to outreach to the community.

- Liu suggests showcasing at pop up events, such as set up a table or distribute a flyer to recruit new interested community members. Ebel asks staff to give OSEC early notice about upcoming events.

- Vladimirova asked about development on city owned Brisbane Acres. Miller said all these properties have deed restrictions, which means these lands, cannot be developed on. It is inconceivable that these parcels will be developed on since; the purpose of their purchase was to preserve them for open space.

- Miller mentioned there is an Open Space Plan and parcels that have been identified as critical habitat.

- Holstine added the lands acquired with the Coastal Conservancy funds are about 90%. The burden to create infrastructure is insurmountable to be able to develop in the Brisbane Acres.

-Vladimirova asked about private property that has been sold. Holstine said no city owned property has been sold in the Brisbane Acres, due to deed restrictions. Private property exists in the lower acres that could be developed. Acres are identified in the Open Space Plan for preservation.

- Kinser added lower acres are different from upper acres.

- Ebel is concerned about lower acres development extending into the upper acres in the future. Miller mentioned a trust can be an outlet to preserve San Bruno Mountain and the Acres, but it is a large commitment.

- Miller discussed and overlay ordinance could be pursued by OSEC, which was included in the memo he wrote to OSEC last year. Staff will resend the memo to OSEC for review.

- Liu asked about the EV charging grant in the work plan. Kinser said staff is working on a grant application to install an EV charging station in the Brisbane Village. Liu suggests consideration of future changes in town. The charging station may be moved in the future.
- Ebel asked if a DC fast charger can do level 2 charging. Ebel said a fast charger is not good for a car battery. Miller adds his car has a warning not to use the fast charger. Ebel said she utilizes level 2 chargers when she drives around.
- Ebel asks why the Recology EIR and the General Plan are not on the work plan.
- Miller added that OSEC's participation in the Baylands process should be added to the work plan. The community survey showed that Open Space was a main community concern. Miller suggests formation of a subcommittee and participation in the hearings, and should refer to the Sustainability Framework to make suggestions. Liu suggests checking with the city attorney that one appointed commission could speak to another.
- Kinser referred to a policy adopted in 2005 by city council relative to OSEC's involvement. The committee can offer comments on the draft document and representatives from the committee can offer testimony. A subcommittee can be formed before the next hearing. Liu suggests the last meeting can be a catchall. Hayuk suggests adding this to the next OSEC agenda.

8. Viewing of short film from Community Festival, "Sustainability through the Eyes of the Brisbane Community"

- Noise level at the fair was not optimal for filming.
- Vladimirova would like this video to be shared with the community to help create awareness about sustainability.
- Fieldman feels there are many examples of sustainability that could be added to the video, such as examples of people changing their diet, or an electric car being plugged in etc.
- Kinser suggests the education and outreach subcommittee can determine what's next. Hayuk does think a Do-it-Yourself (DIY) aspect can be utilized.
- Staff will send out the video link.

9. Review highlights of the CAP

- Escoffier went over the highlights of the CAP.
- Community outreach was completed through social media and printed media, those featured in the film were emailed about the showing.
- The CAP was adopted September 17, 2015 by City Council.
- Brisbane's reduction targets for GHGs are 13,876 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents and this plan reduces emissions by 16,014 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents; which means the reductions targets are overshot by 15%.
- A photo was displayed to represent a metric ton.
- Reduction targets are based on compliance with AB 32, which states the city must reach 1990 levels by 2020 or reach 15% below 2005 GHG levels.
- There are also regional efforts to reduce GHG emissions: Initiatives such as San Mateo County Energy Watch, which partners with PG&E to promote energy efficiency in buildings and rebates. And the Congestion management agency, which identifies future strategies to fulfill transportation needs.
- Other regional agencies and efforts: Energy Upgrade California, Sustainable San Mateo County and Joint Venture: Silicon Valley to name a few.
- In order to move specific measures forward, Brisbane will actively seek collaboration with the county to accomplish more challenging goals.
- The plan covers five areas in which GHG reduction targets are aimed: Energy, Water, Solid waste, Road emissions/ Transportation, and All sector.

- All measures cover community and municipal GHG emissions where applicable.
- Some examples of measures:
 - Energy: Promote energy savings rebates and incentives to the community. Examples are: CaliforniaFIRST and Peninsula Sunshares.
 - Water: Promote water saving rebates and water wise gardening.
 - Solid waste: Increase the diversion rate with the help of South San Francisco Scavenger offering food scrap pick up to existing yard waste pick up for businesses, including City Hall and potentially other city facilities.
 - Road emissions/ Transportation: Install a public EV charging station to encourage use of electric vehicles.
 - All Sector: Promote the County Green Business program to local businesses.
 - We want to involve the community through education and outreach to instill lifestyle changes and awareness of global warming.
 - Examples of ideas for community engagement and education are: Showing a film followed by discussion, create a book club, door-to-door information given on rebates, share tips on how to reduce your carbon footprint, encourage active modes of transportation and give information about public transportation to name a few.
 - For more information the Climate Action Plan, can be found on the city website if you search for "Climate action plan".

10. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm.