



CITY of BRISBANE

Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

CALL TO ORDER – 6:31 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, Ebel, Salmon, Walker

Staff members present: Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Sustainability Fellow, Chase; City Clerk Padilla (through Approval of the Minutes)

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Ebel moved to adopt the agenda and Becker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – City Clerk Padilla shared that her office, along with the City Manager and HR Departments have moved across the street to the City Hall Annex at 25 Park Place. She provided a friendly reminder from the legal counsel for committee members to use their city-issued email accounts. As the City Clerk, she handles public records requests and not using city emails could subject your personal accounts to review.

Salmon noted Day in the Park coming up on Saturday October 5.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- B. Minutes of August 28, 2024 – postponed

NEW BUSINESS

- C. SSF Scavenger Annual Presentation on Waste Diversion – Teresa Montgomery and Frida Pensamiento, South San Francisco Scavenger Company
- Montgomery provided 2023 disposal data for Brisbane; the total disposed and pounds per resident or per employee are similar to 2021 and 2022. Approximately 63% of waste generated was diverted from landfill.
 - Montgomery described the SB1383 procurement requirement and how Brisbane is meeting it through renewable gas and heat created at Scavengers’ anaerobic digestion facility, as well as compost they donated to the community and the City purchased through a countywide collaboration with the Resource Conservation District that applies compost to local farms.

- Montgomery stressed that bioplastics should be put in your landfill cart and explained how they, or other kinds of plastics such as plastic bags, contaminate the compost stream.
- The group also discussed “wishcycling” (when in doubt, throw it out!); proper disposal of batteries and the fire dangers those pose when improperly disposed; not recycling broken glass or dishes and other non-container glass; e-waste; and takeout cups and gable-top/aseptic containers that are lined and thus not compostable.
- Several residents asked questions about specific sorting challenges, a lawsuit against Exxon, how to change the waste system as a whole. Chris Florkowski challenged Brisbane to become a Zero Waste city, and requested the City organize a tour of Ox Mountain Landfill, while Beth Grossman asked for a residents’ tour of Blue Line and that all schoolkids get a tour.

STAFF UPDATES – none.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION

Becker moved and Ebel seconded, with unanimous approval, to disband the Dark Skies and Invasive Species subcommittees as their work has finished.

Walker will join Building Decarbonization Subcommittee, Education and Outreach, Lipman Science Fair, and Baylands Chapters 5 & 7. We will consider further changes again next month.

CALENDAR ITEMS – Etherton reviewed the calendar, sharing pictures from Coastal Cleanup Day on September 21 and noting Day in the Park on October 5.

CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS – none. Salmon noted the open seat on the committee.

NEXT MEETING: October 23, 2024

ADJOURN – 8:32 PM