



# CITY of BRISBANE

## Open Space and Ecology Committee Meeting Minutes

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Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 6:30 P.M. • Hybrid Meeting 50 Park Place, Brisbane, CA

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### **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: Armstrong, Ebel, Rogers, Salmon, Walker. Becker is absent for today’s meeting. Ebel arrived at 6:33pm.

Staff members present: Sustainability Manager, Etherton; Deputy Director of Public Works, Kinser; Sustainability Fellow, De La Cruz

#### **ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Rogers moved to adopt the agenda and Walker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** – none. Armstrong introduced herself as the newest member of the committee. Salmon mentioned that the Declarations of Restrictions have been recorded against the deeds for the city owned properties in the Priority Preservation Area of the Brisbane Acres.

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS** – none.

#### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

Minutes of January 29, 2025 – Rogers motioned to approve the minutes and Walker seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously. Armstrong abstained.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

- B. Consider process and possible subcommittee for OSEC Baylands EIR review
- Etherton would like to make assignments for reviewal of the different chapters of the DEIR ahead of its release. Individual and group assignments were made and updated, except for a few that will be assigned and revisited at a later date.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- C. Election of Chair and Vice Chair
- Salmon expressed interest in being Chair of the Committee. Ebel nominated Salmon, Rogers seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously. Salmon nominated Walker as Vice Chair, Rogers seconded; the motion was adopted unanimously.

#### **STAFF UPDATES**

Etherton:

- Etherton noted the pool contract for electrification was approved at the council meeting last Thursday, and a site visit with PG&E is scheduled for next week
- The Dark Sky ordinance explainer is on the cover of this month's STAR. We are working on a case study of lighting examples. The Dark Sky website has been updated and includes staff contacts for questions.
- Etherton noted the City is starting facility reviews of the city's buildings, particularly for Dark Sky compliance but also considering other energy upgrades eligible for utility incentives, working through the PG&E GK12 program to minimize costs.
- The solar project for the library is expected to start construction in the coming weeks.
- Updated Committee on SB1383 recordkeeping project with De La Cruz, and noted an informal CalRecycle review of SB1383 records this week.
- Mentioned meeting with a representative from Heirloom (carbon sequestration company) and noted that they are interested in hosting a tour of the facility.
- Noted reaching out to relevant staff regarding the MTC/ABAG PCA grant, and it is likely that it will not be available until July or August.
- Followed up on a prior meeting's request for information on EV charging usage, presented website for current statistics on user data throughout the City.

De La Cruz:

- Provided updates on BBEP. Noted that one Notice of Violation was sent out and the rest of the buildings (10 with BDI and two others outstanding) are awaiting audits. Also noted working with TouchstoneIQ on Beyond modules being integrated, and our goal of getting the 2025 benchmarking reporting link prepared and launched next week.

#### **SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND REORGANIZATION**

- Events (Becker, Salmon) – Salmon updated on the success of the February Habitat event, thank you to partners who sponsored the event. Next event will be Earth Day
- Education and Outreach (Armstrong, Rogers, Walker) – Etherton noted another display will be due soon at the library. Armstrong was added to the Subcommittee
- Climate Action Planning (Ebel, Walker) – Walker noted the group met to discuss funding options and he is following up with community members involved in the 1% for the Arts fee development which will be discussed further at the next meeting
- \*Open Space Plan Update (Nunan, Rogers, Salmon) – Salmon noted the deeds have been filed for properties to remain open space. Next steps will be to have Council formally designate the areas as Open Space. City owns 48 of the parcels.
- \*Crocker Trail Frog Habitat (Nunan, Rogers, Salmon) – Kinser noted a potential upcoming volunteer day with Paul Bouscal
- \*Tree Issues (Ebel, Rogers, **Salmon**) – Salmon noted she is the new subcommittee lead, and mentioned a need to integrate PlanIT Geo data to better understand canopy. Members are each taking on a separate focus: city tree canopy goals (Rogers), refining gaps in tree ordinance (Ebel), and the formation of a volunteer adjunct group to help

with training on maintaining trees on private property (Salmon). Ebel mentioned the need to update the approved tree list for the City. Rogers suggested including trees in a library display.

- Baylands Specific Plan subcommittees – no updates
- \*Liaisons to Council – Salmon and Walker elected Chair and Vice Chair
- \*Lipman Science Fair (Walker, Ebel) – Rogers and Walker presented the winners of the OSEC awards and noted the plethora of environmental projects this year
- PCA Grant – Ebel would like to be removed. Will decide on new members at a future meeting

**CALENDAR ITEMS** – Etherton went over upcoming events as currently scheduled

**CHAIR AND COMMITTEE MEMBER MATTERS** – reminded public that volunteers are welcome to join programs and events at [MountainWatch.org](http://MountainWatch.org)

**NEXT MEETING:** March 26, 2025

**ADJOURN – 8:01 PM**