



**OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE
OPEN SPACE & CONSERVATION ELEMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING**

Monday, May 11, 2009

6:30 p.m.

Pasadena City Hall

Grand Conference Room SO38 (Basement of City Hall – southeast corner)

100 North Garfield Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101

Web page - www.cityofpasadena.net/OpenSpace

The meeting was called to order by Chair Janisch at 6:38 pm.

Present: Richard Janisch (Chair); Edwina Travis-Chin (Vice-Chair); Don Bremner; Mike Coppess; Anne Dove; Belinda Faustinos; Laura Garrett; Madhu Kumar

Absent: Stephen Acker (alternate); Jane Beesley (alternate); Paul Edelman; Roger Gray (alternate); Cara McLane Meyer (alternate); Carolyn Naber (alternate); Tim Wendler (alternate); George Wilson (alternate)

City Staff: Laura Dahl; Robert Ávila; Rusty Whisman (intern)

I. Public Comment On Matters Not On The Agenda

Nina Chomsky, LVAA—Pasadena needs to reaffirm its commitment to Green Practices in the global sense. Public policies are being implemented in conflict with Green Practices. There isn't a focus for leadership. Perhaps an Environmental Office in the City Manager's Office is necessary. All of our land use decisions need to be aligned and integrated for us to become a Green and sustainable City. When will plans, like Hahamonga, be updated and rethought in light of our commitment to Green Practices. Hahamonga is the current crisis on the horizon. We need deep staff development with regard to Green Issues. Perhaps some integration with the Environmental Advisory Committee would help.

II. Guest Presentation – Alice Sterling, Senior Project Manager, City of Pasadena Green City Program

Ms. Sterling discussed the City's 21-point Green City Action Plan and what measures the City is undertaking to implement the United Nations' Urban Accords. The Action Plan is a comprehensive environmental action plan that will guide the City towards sustainability and which will accelerate the City environmental commitment. Ms. Sterling stated that the City is working toward recognition as becoming a leader in sustainability matters. The City has achieved first tier status for implementing initiatives that implement the Accords.

III. Approval of Minutes

Committee Member Coppess moved to approve the minutes and Committee Member Bremner seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the minutes were approved without changes.

IV. Update on Land Use and Mobility Element Update (LUME)

The first kick off event is not on May 30th, it is now rescheduled for late September. The plan for summer is for staff to meet with established groups to talk about the General Plan. There is also a youth outreach plan underway. New mediums for information dissemination are also being tried, i.e. Twitter.

V. Vision Statement and Principles

One sample statement was furnished by the Committee. Samples statements were gathered by staff mostly for the format, not necessarily the content. The San Luis Obispo example will be model will be used to develop the City's format. Key words and phrases discussed:

- Create, maintain, protect and restore
- System, link, network
- Sustainability; ecological stewardship; sustainable landscape
- Green infrastructure
- Natural resources is the preferred term rather than environment
- Make Pasadena better
- Native
- Health, safety and beauty
- Recognizing and assessing
- 3 E's—equity, economy, environment
- Self sufficient footprint
- Attributes of the City of Pasadena
 - Trees, tree canopy
- Preserve
 - Functioning ecosystem
 - Two distinct biological areas—Eaton Canyon and the Arroyo Seco are valuable ecological resources
 - “Close to home” nature
 - Mountain views
 - Watershed
 - Trees and other planted areas, landscaping, native species
 - Access
 - Resources stewardship education
- More
 - Wildlife Corridors
 - Extending Urban Habitat
 - Natural Open Space
 - Restored Rivers—Eaton Canyon And Arroyo Seco
 - Connecting Trail Networks
 - Bio-Diversity
- Conservation
 - Self sufficiency
 - Meet needs locally
 - Contributing to economy
 - Integral to prosperity

- Local food production
- Leadership—organizational coordination
- Community participation
- Implementation Plan—measurable goals, assessment

VI. Next Open Space & Conservation Element Outreach Event

The committee will meet with small groups. Test vision statement with community after vision statement is developed.

VII. Agenda items for next meeting – June 8, 2009

- Guest Speaker – City of Pasadena Water & Power Department – Water Division
- Future and regional workshops

VIII. Adjournment

Chair Janisch motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:07 p.m. Chair hearing no opposition. Meeting adjourned.



Robert Ávila, Recording Secretary