



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

Monday, June 8, 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 6:39 pm.

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

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

City Staff: Laura Dahl; Rusty Whisman (intern)

I. Public Comment On Matters Not On The Agenda
None.

II. Guest Presentation – Guest Presentation – Eric Klinkner, Assistant General Manager, Pasadena Water & Power (PWP); Brad Boman, Engineering Manager, PWP; and Nancy Long, Account Manager, PWP

Mr. Klinkner discussed the water supply in California and the City's water conservation plan. The state is no longer considered to be in a drought situation. California is facing a water supply shortage that is tied to conveyance as much as it is tied to drought. Our perceptions and use of water will have to change. PWP (Pasadena Water & Power) is recommending that the City adopt the water conservation program for a Level One shortage. Rates (price signals) will be set to incentivise changes in consumer behavior.

Mr. Boman stated that although rainfall is close to normal, PWP is implementing a Stage Two water conservation program. Available Colorado River supplies to the MWD (Metropolitan Water District) are at historical lows. Wildlife conservation measures are impacting water available for pumping from the Sacramento Delta. MWD storage reservoirs are being depleted through withdrawals to meet current demand. Ground water levels are continuing to drop. PWP has to pump from increasingly deeper levels. The Raymond Basin Authority oversees

water allocations of local ground water. Conservation goal is to cut water demand by 10% per capita to maintain local water levels long-term and emergency uses.

- Ms. Long described the water conservation plan. PWP has had a very active conservation program with a new conservation emphasis on 1) Using price signals in rate design to encourage conservation; 2) Increased outdoor water efficiency; 3) Maximizing new construction efficiencies. Price signals do work on effecting use behavior. Indoor water use is less per capita than from several years ago. The current focus is outdoor usage. PWP has engaged a public education program over the last 18-months. New permanent water waste prohibitions include 1) No watering between 9 a.m. and 6 p.m. (hand watering and system repairs allowed); 2) No watering during periods of rain; 3) No excessive water flow, runoff, or washing of hard surfaces; 4) Obligation to fix leaks; 5) Restaurants required to use water conserving dish wash spray valves; 6) Recirculation systems required for fountains, car washes, commercial laundry.

III. Approval of Minutes

Committee Member Bremner moved to approve the minutes and Committee Member Coppess 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)

- General Plan Update Advisory Committee meetings 5/14 and 5/28.

Ms. Dahl recounted that the committee has met twice since the last meeting, and will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday. The next meeting will be June 11th. Vice chair Chin reported that the GPUAC Committee will have their community event in late September with a series of smaller targeted meetings that will occur over the summer. The meetings will occur within the council districts and with community groups throughout the City. Ms. Chin noted that the interaction of this committee with GPUAC has not been established. Ms. Dahl added that the program would start in July with the purpose of educating people about the General Plan and the update process which includes Open Space and Conservation, to engage a larger and more diverse audience for City matters.

- General Plan Outreach Events.

There are three questions that will be asked and ranked at the community workshops. These questions are also applicable to Open Space and Conservation.

1. What are the qualities that make Pasadena stand out among other cities?
2. What qualities of the City do you care about most for the next generation?
3. What challenges to the City and Southern California must we resolve during the next ten years?

There will be GPUAC Committee members and staff organizing and conducting the meetings. Volunteers from the OSC Committee are welcome. Staff has a list of neighborhood associations and business groups and will be setting up meetings for groups of 15 or more.

Another activity will be the Pasadena Stories—very short video taped interviews asking similar questions as above. The interviews will be posted on the web to show diversity of opinions. The Youth Council will be involved in the filming and editing.

Also occurring throughout the summer will be Move Abouts—Self-guided tours that one could do on foot, car, bike, bus or light-rail in different areas of Pasadena to ask participants different things seen on the tour.

V. Summary of Guest Speaker Presentations

A summary of the guest speakers was prepared summarized from the minutes of past meetings. Committee members will forward notes to staff for inclusion with the next agenda report.

VI. Vision Statement and Principles

Ms. Dahl noted that a draft vision statement, purpose, and principles were prepared. Some principles are inspired by other cities and counties. The first two pages are new materials. The materials from page 3 onward include objective, goals and policies from existing documents. Staff is requesting the committee to comment on the draft vision statement, purpose, and principles and send comments to staff or bring them to the next meeting.

VII. Summer Open Space Tour

Ms. Dahl asked the committee if there was an Open Space and/or Conservation Tour where the public would be sent and what they would do. Vice-Chair Chin offered that underappreciated places would be of interest to the community; presenting attractive water-wise gardens to discuss conservation. Ms. Dahl inquired as to what the public might be asked about Eaton Canyon. Vice-Chair Chin suggested a tour of the potential Emerald Necklace trail. Committee Member Garrett proposed asking questions about the natural areas of Eaton Canyon. Chair Janisch suggested a tour of a water spreading ground. Committee Member Coppess recommended a tour from down the Arroyo Seco or Eaton Canyon down to the south city limit.

VIII. Open Space Inventory Update

Mr. Whisman prepared several maps to summarize the data that the City has collected so far. Staff has identified 860 parcels having some open space characteristic.

IX. Reports from Other Commissions

New regular item that will be added to the committee agenda is reports from other commissions. This will allow opportunities for committee members on other commissions or committees to share important information with the group.

X. Agenda items for next meeting – July 20, 2009

- Guest Speaker – No guest speaker scheduled
- Glossary for open space
- Future and regional workshops
- Timeline

XI. Adjournment

Chair Janisch motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m. Chair hearing no opposition. Meeting adjourned.



Robert Ávila, Recording Secretary