



MINUTES
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 7 p.m. in-person and Zoom meeting
Fairfax Women's Club
46 Park Road, Fairfax, CA 94930

Fairfax Open Space Members:

Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary	Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary
Geoffrey Bolt	Jack Judkins, Vice Chair
Heather Duplaisir	Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Joe Franaszek	Teddy Catrini, Youth Member (ex officio)

Virtual and In-Person Meeting Advisory Notice

Due to the declared State of Emergency and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, and pursuant to AB 361 and Fairfax Town Council Resolution, this meeting will be held in-person and via teleconference. Members and the public can participate in the meeting in-person and in real time as follows:

Watch on Zoom with Meeting ID: 385 556 8697 and Passcode: 097432

Join Zoom Meeting:

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ID: 385 556 8697 and Passcode: 097432

To speak during the public comment period, select the **Raise Hand icon** and you will be added to the speaker queue, and unmuted when it is your turn.

Listen by telephone: dial*67 (1-669) 900-9128. At the prompt, enter **meeting ID: 385 556 8697**

and Passcode: 097432 at public comment period, **press *9** and you will be added to the speaker queue, and unmuted when it is your turn.

Agenda Preamble / Land Acknowledgement: *The Fairfax Open Space Committee acknowledges that we are located on the un-ceded ancestral lands of the Coast Miwok people of present-day Marin County. We honor with gratitude the land itself and all of its ancestors: past, present and emerging.* (read by Michael Ardito)

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA (Started at 7:07 p.m.)

1. Call to Order, Roll Call: Susan Pascal Beran, Chair

Members Present: Michael Ardito, Heather Duplaisir, Joe Franaszek, Ruth Horn (via Zoom), Jack Judkins, Susan Pascal Beran, Teddy Catrini (youth member); Quorum reached

Member absent: Geoffrey Bolt

Guests in person: Loren Umbertis (Fairfax Public Works Director); and Jonathan Braun (co-chair of the San Anselmo Open Space Committee); Josh Weinik (potential FOSC member applicant)

Guest via Zoom: Frank Egger (former Fairfax Town Mayor and Councilmember)

2. **Approval of Agenda** (approved by verbal vote)
3. **FOSC Introductory Session with Fairfax Public Works Director Loren Umbertis** (Discussion and possible future action). FOSC members and Public Works Director Loren Umbertis introduced each other. Umbertis has been employed by Fairfax for three months and was formerly employed in Sausalito for 11 years. We discussed the need for occasional trail maintenance on Fairfax-owned lands and trash pick up from open space parcels when needed. Jonathan Braun mentioned that San Anselmo's Public Works Director Sean Condry is a good source for advice on these activities. Loren Umbertis also knows Sean Condry from his former job in Sausalito and confirmed Condry's expertise.
4. **Wonderfully Wild Marin Fundraiser, Holiday Outreach and Crafts Faire** (discussion and possible action). We conducted sign-ups for FOSC table duty as part of the upcoming crafts faire on Saturday, December 10.
5. **Collaborative Fundraising with San Anselmo Open Space Committee** (Jonathan Braun, SAOSC Co-Chair, discussion and possible action). This item will be re-agendized for 2023.
6. **Hawthorn Canyon Open Space fundraiser with San Anselmo** (discussion and possible action.) Please see agenda item #5.
7. **FOSC Outreach, Merchandise, Storage of Materials, Photo Survey Project, and Nature Walks** (discussion and possible action). Susan Pascal Beran reported that FOSC merchandise is now back in the storage unit in the Fairfax Pavilion.
8. **Grant Writing for Open Space Grant Applications** (Susan Pascal Beran, discussion and possible future action). Susan Pascal Beran and Heather Duplaisir will brainstorm about this endeavor during semester break and meet with Malia McLaughlin. Jack Judkins has provided the link to the Coastal Conservancy to Susan and Heather.
9. **Treasurer's Report** (updates, discussion for future appointment of new FOSC Treasurer). Susan Waters at Town Hall has requested to know the FOSC treasury figures. Jack Judkins will reach out to Fairfax Town Finance Director Michael Vivrette to get the FOSC figures of our general fund and Measure A funds for our January meeting.
10. **Update on FOSC Social Media Accounts** (discussion and possible actions for reactivating the accounts). Our FOSC notecard photos have been uploaded to our Facebook and Instagram accounts by Teddy Catrini.
11. **Status of Tax Default Purchase of Upper Ridgeway Parcels for Open Space** (Jack Judkins, discussion and possible action). Jack Judkins emailed Bill Long of Marin Open Space Trust. Escrow is now open. Funds have been deposited by Marin County, but there is a process to notify the property owners or heirs. This is reportedly on track to be completed by the end of this year.
12. **Status of Auction for Tax Default Open Space Parcels in Fairfax** (Ruth Horn, discussion and possible action). This item has been postponed to 2023.
13. **Acceptance of Open Space Land Donation near Canyon Road and Adjacent to Egger Grove** (discussion and possible action). Jack Judkins and Town officials (town manager, public works director and engineer) did a visit to the site to evaluate the feasibility of this parcel for acquisition to provide access to the Egger Grove.
14. **Reports from FOSC Committees / Subcommittees** (discussion, possible actions and reassignments): Acquisitions; Governance; Stewardship; Community Outreach & Fundraising; Measure A. 1) The Acquisitions Subcommittee is thinking about the Wall property and looking for drone shots to show visual resources of the open space. 2) The Community Outreach & Fundraising Subcommittee primarily reported plans to hold a film night at the Fairfax Women's Club in early February (subsequently scheduled for Saturday, February 4) of "In the Light of Reverence" a 72-minute film (ten years in the making) about the origin of sacred lands by Native Americans. The website link is sacredland.origin/in-the-light-of-reverence. Heather's husband, Nate, can help us with audio-visual set-up. Chance Cutrano has the FOSC projector from our previous film night fundraisers. Heather could help with discussion about this topic after the film.

Heather also reported that the 2023 City Nature Challenge / Bio-Blitz, with support by the California Academy of Sciences, is set for Friday, April 29 thru Sunday, May 1. The Fairfax event is scheduled for Saturday, April 29.

- 15. Reports of activities from partner agencies** such as San Anselmo Open Space Committee (SAOSC); Marin Conservation League's Parks and Open Space Committee; Together Bay Area; One Tam; Friends of Corte Madera Creek: FOSC representatives (discussions). No reports.
- 16. Dedication of Egger Preserve; Signage Program for Fairfax Open Space Properties** (discussion and possible future action). Frank Egger is still trying to acquire the redwood slabs for the signage for the three sites: Egger Grove Redwood Preserve; Gloria Duncan Creekside Preserve; and Jolly Hill Open Space.
- 17. Adopt-a-Tree Program** (discussion and possible fundraiser future action). This item, suggested by Geoff Bolt, was postponed to the next meeting.
- 18. Approval of FOSC Meeting Minutes from September and October 2022** (discussion and possible approval action): Michael Ardito mentioned that approval of the October meeting minutes can be postponed to the January meeting. The September 2022 meeting minutes were approved with the replaced language for agenda item #9, "Acceptance of Open Space Land Donation near Canyon Road and Adjacent to Egger Grove", as rewritten and submitted by Jack Judkins.
- 19. Preparation of FOSC Annual Reports** (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito and Joe Franaszek. This item was postponed to the January 24, 2023 meeting.
- 20. Next FOSC Meeting on January 24, 2023:** Quorum Check, Future Agenda Items (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito said it appears we will have a quorum for the January meeting.
- 21. FOSC Member Reports on Non-Agenda Items** (no discussions or actions). With the recent resignation of long-time FOSC member Christopher Borjian, we now have two open seats.
- 22. Adjournment** was at 8:42 p.m.

This meeting notice was posted in accordance with Government Code section 54954.2(a)(1) on or before December 2, 2022.