



Town of Fairfax Open Space Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 3, 2024 | 6:30 p.m.
In-person at the Fairfax Women's Club
46 Park Road, Fairfax, CA 94930

MINUTES

Fairfax Open Space Members

Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Jack Judkins, Vice Chair
Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary
Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary
Christine Kelly, Treasurer

Geoff Bolt
Joe Franaszek
Marc Lubomirski
John Reed
Maria Pastor, Youth Member (ex officio)

SPECIAL MEETING at 6:30 p.m.

FOSC Interview Panel (Susan Pascal Beran, Jack Judkins, Michael Ardito and Maria Pastor) interviewed Felix Shuldiner, a candidate to fill the vacant youth member position.

Preamble / Land Acknowledgement was read by Michael Ardito:

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.

REGULAR AGENDA at 7 p.m.

1. Call to Order at 7 p.m. / Roll Call / Approval of Agenda / Appointment of Timekeeper (Maria Pastor), for this meeting – Chair Susan Pascal Beran

Members Present: Michael Ardito, Geoff Bolt, Joe Franaszek, Jack Judkins, Christine Kelly, Susan Pascal Beran, John Reed, and Maria Pastor (youth member). This was a quorum.

Members Absent: Ruth Horn, Marc Lubomirski

Guests Included: Ted Bright, Todd Greenberg, and Myron Walters.

2. Open Time for Public Expressions

(The public is welcome to address the Committee at this time on matters not on the agenda. Please be advised that pursuant to Government Code 54954.2, the Committee is not permitted to take action on any matter not on the agenda, unless it determines that an emergency exists, or that the need to take action arose following posting of the agenda. Each speaker is limited to three minutes and a spokesperson for an organization is limited to five minutes.)

Todd Greenberg mentioned that the Fairfax Tree Committee originally had a slot for a member from the Open Space Committee. At this time, the Tree Committee has members "at large" as in recent years there was not an interest by any FOSC members.

3. Receive Updates about Wall Property and Naming Process (discussion and possible action). Myron Walters mentioned that a tree recently fell during the last rainstorm across the Wall property. He mentioned that the public should know there is no outlet from the Bright bench to Arcangel Court. Joe Franaszek will draft a FOSC letter to the Fairfax Town Council requesting that the Wall property naming process for all or parts of the property be delegated to FOSC for discussion and for FOSC to make a proposal to the Town Council. Also, the necessary signage about the permitted open space uses should be posted. Reportedly, there is a sign still remaining there that professional dog walkers are not allowed. There were questions about Marin County Parks and Open Space District's trail maintenance duties for the Wall property. FOSC will need to work with the next Town Council liaison about these matters. It was mentioned that Frank Egger may be the best choice as he typically attends FOSC meetings.

4. Receive Treasurer's Report – Christine Kelly reported a FOSC account balance of \$54,813.93. With a refund to FOSC from Marin Open Space Trust, the balance is closer to \$55,000.

5. Installation and Dedication of Signs for Fairfax Public Open Space Properties – Michael Ardito and John Reed (discussion and action). This item is postponed and will be coordinated with Town Council Member Frank Egger. The signs are being stored by Fairfax Public Works.

6. Receive updates about Carey Camp Creek – Geoff Bolt (discussion and next steps). No updates.

7. **Receive Reports from FOSC Subcommittees Spokespersons: Acquisitions; Governance; Stewardship; Community Outreach & Fundraising; Trails; Measure A;** (discussions, reassignments and next steps). Each Subcommittee presented draft work plans for 2025 that were discussed with possible updates and revisions to be made by each Subcommittee. Geoff Bolt has resigned from the Stewardship Subcommittee. New FOSC member Marc Lubomirski will join the Governance and Stewardship Subcommittees.
8. **Creation of FOSC 2025 Docket** – Joe Franaszek (discussion and possible action). The “docket” will be developed from the work plans from the FOSC Subcommittees that were just presented in the previous agenda item.
9. **Receive Reports of Activities from FOSC Representatives for Partner Agencies** such as San Anselmo Open Space Committee (SAOSC); Marin County Parks and Open Space; Marin Conservation League’s Parks and Open Space Committee; Together Bay Area; One Tam; Friends of Corte Madera Creek (discussions and next steps). No updates.
10. **FOSC Participation in Fairfax Holiday Fair on December 14** – Susan Pascal Beran (discussion and action). A sign-up sheet was passed around for FOSC table duties at the holiday fair.
11. **Creation of FOSC Emeritus Members** (discussion and possible action). FOSC voted to create the category of Member Emeritus for the roster. Ted Bright, FOSC charter member and FOSC treasurer for over ten years, was named as the first Member Emeritus. He donated \$1 million last year for acquisition of the Wall property in memory of his late wife Diane.
12. **Receive FOSC Minutes from Several Previous Meetings for Approval:** The draft minutes from the last meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2024 was approved with one minor change about the acreage of a possible open space donation.
13. **Agenda Items and Quorum Check for Next FOSC Meeting on Tuesday, January 28, 2025:** No suggestions.
14. **FOSC Member Reports on Non-Agenda Items** (no discussions). Geoff Bolt mentioned the plight of the northern spotted owl in places like Humboldt County.
15. **Appointment of Youth Member** (discussion and action). Felix Shuldiner, interviewed earlier, was unanimously appointed as the newest youth member. His term will run through June 2025 when he graduates from high school.
16. **Appreciations and Adjournment was at 9:22 p.m.** This was followed by a group photo taken to provide for outgoing Fairfax Town Council Member and FOSC liaison Chance Cutrano.