

## MINUTES REGULAR FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MEETING 16 Park Road / Youth Center, Fairfax, CA 94930 Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.

## **Fairfax Open Space Members:**

Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary Ray Burgarella, Treasurer Sara Dudley Jack Judkins Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary Chris Powers, Acting Chair Nancy Rogers Michael Simler Allie Ross (ex officio youth member) Lily Williams (ex officio youth member)

- 1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** Chris Powers, Acting Chair Members present: Michael Ardito, Sara Dudley, Jack Judkins, Ruth Horn, Chris Powers, Allie Ross. Members absent: Nancy Rogers, Michael Simler, Lily Williams.
- 2. Approval of Agenda for January 24, 2017 and Minutes for December 6, 2016 Meeting: The agenda for tonight's meeting was approved. Approval of the December 6,, 2016 minutes were deferred to the next meeting with input from Jack Judkins requested to provide details for agenda items 13 and 14 regarding the general plan inventory of open space properties and implementation of the open space element.
- 3. Welcome to new FOSC applicant / member: Lauren Hinxmann. Lauren's interview with the Fairfax Town Council for appointment to FOSC was scheduled for the Council's meeting on February 1.
- 4. **Treasurer's Report**: Ray Burgarella. Postponed to the next FOSC meeting due to the treasurer's absence.
- 5. Updates on Broom Pulls: Sky Ranch, Jolly Hill, Upper Ridgeway Trail Broom pull video: "The Extractigators". The video has been recently posted to the FOSC website. Jack Judkins and Lauren Hinxmann represented Fairfax, along with former FOSC member and chair Mimi Newton, at the Sky Ranch broom pull held on Saturday, January 14 sponsored by the San Anselmo Open Space Committee (SAOSC). In all, there were about 30 volunteers, including about 20 students from Drake High School receiving credit for community service. The Saturday morning broom pull concluded with a free lunch of salad and chili provided by Greg Reza of the Marin County Department of Parks and Open Space. Jonathan Braun, co-chair of SAOSC, provided an oral presentation of the historical background of Sky Ranch at this event. The broom pull for Jolly Hill to be sponsored by FOSC still needs to be scheduled for this spring. Michael Ardito was directed to contact Brian Crawford of SAOSC about future Sky Ranch broom pulls and to contact Greg Reza about a possible broom pull with FOSC at the Upper Ridgeway Trail.
- 6. FOSC Outreach to Fairfax Volunteers: Sara Dudley reached out to Fairfax Volunteers and attended a recent meeting regarding potential collaboration with FOSC for a summertime, family-friendly trash pick-up and creek clean-up. Michael Ardito requested that FOSC continue to reach out and request the best contact for the Fairfax Volunteers' website to include the listing of FOSC volunteer events (such as the Sky Ranch broom pull).
- 7. FOSC Continuing Business discussion and possible action on:
  - Lutheran Church property update (and potential open space acquisition of back 18 acres). Michael Ardito shared information about the results of the

previous night's Fairfax Tree Committee meeting when there was an hour presentation and discussion about tree removal requests for this proposed Victory Village development at the 2626 Sir Francis Drake Boulevard property. The Tree Committee approved the removal of 42 trees that are listed for removal due to construction impacts. A landscape plan has been submitted that will replace these trees one for one. The developer's representative, Alicia Klein of Resources for Community Development, the landscape architect, and the arborist were all present to answer questions. Removal of these trees is contingent upon the applicant receiving approval of the construction project from the Planning Commission and Town Council. The trees may not be removed until a building permit is ready for issuance, and conditions from the mitigated negative declaration adhered to. The Tree Committee has delayed approval for 30 trees to be removed that are outside the construction impact area so that the Tree Committee may have more time to review. There may also be more trees that need to be removed after a Vegetation Management Plan has been submitted to the fire department.

- Wall Property update (potential open space acquisition). None.
- 8. **Open Time for Public Expressions** (*The public is welcome to address the Committees at this time on matters not on the agenda. Please be advised that pursuant to Government Code 54954.2, the Committees are 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.)* Charles Cornwell, a Fairfax resident, attended the FOSC meeting and expressed his interest in volunteering to serve.
- 9. **Quorum Call for FOSC meeting on Tuesday, February 28, 2017**. There appeared to be enough FOSC members available to attend and have a quorum at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- 10. **Review of FOSC Acting Chair Schedule for February thru June 2017.** Sara Dudley is scheduled to serve as FOSC Acting Chair for February and preside over the next meeting.
- 11. FOSC Outreach and Web Activities (discussion and possible action): Chris Powers provided a presentation about the new FOSC logo design. FOSC approved up to \$400 for payment to RJ Rabe productions for the FOSC merchandise designs. Chris Powers requested more photos for the FOSC website and Facebook pages. The goal is to have more content and interest for FOSC merchandise products as a fundraiser via PayPal or credit cards. He established FOSC handles for Instagram and Twitter accounts. The handle is 14 characters with no spaces: FairfxOpenSpace. The aim is to get more FOSC followers for those accounts. FOSC also voted to approve the expenditure of \$4,600 to order 614 FOSC merchandise items. The breakout is: 200 water bottles; 144 socks (72 pairs); 120 T-shirts; and 150 ball caps. FOSC also has a current inventory of some other merchandise items such as bandanas. There was a discussion about new FOSC member business cards. Ruth Horn indicated she has some generic FOSC business cards still available from the last printing.
- 12. **State Coastal Conservancy's Proposition 1 Grant Opportunity / Webinar:** Sara Dudley reported that FOSC did not have any representation on the statewide webinar.
- 13. Reports from Committees and Subcommittees (including FOSC Fundraising Subcommittee; the Tree Committee; the General Plan Implementation Committee; special FOSC subcommittees for reviewing open space elements of specific development proposals) Michael Ardito provided the Tree Committee report under the update for the Lutheran Church property.

- 14. **Reports of activities from partner agencies:** San Anselmo Open Space Committee; Bay Area Open Space Council; Marin Open Space Commission; Marin Conservation League's Parks and Open Space Committee: FOSC representatives. No new information reported.
- 15. San Rafael's new Greenwood Open Space. No members of FOSC were able to attend the opening ceremony event in January.
- 16. **MMWD's Biodiversity, Fire and Fuels Integrated Plan Comment Period:** Michael Ardito reported that Larry Bragman of the MMWD Board indicated the comment period for this document is ending February 3, 2017. Due to lack of time, FOSC was not interested in providing a combined review and comment.
- 17. Status of Draft FOSC Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2015-16: Michael Ardito has postponed this to a future FOSC meeting.
- 18. FOSC Members Expressions. None.
- 19. Adjournment was at 9:50 p.m.