



MINUTES
SPECIAL & REGULAR FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE MEETING
16 Park Road / Community Center, Fairfax, CA 94930
Tuesday, February 25, 2020

Fairfax Open Space Members:

Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary	Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary
Chris Borjian	Jack Judkins, Vice Chair
Charles Cornwell, Treasurer	Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Chance Cutrano	Jonathan Sicroff
Brad Handel	Dahlia Siegel-Zigmund, Youth Member (ex officio)

SPECIAL MEETING (Starts at 6 p.m.)

- 1. Orientation for New FOSC Members:** Brad Handel and Jonathan Sicroff. A question and answer period was conducted with the two newest members.
- 2. Review of Assignments and Reports from FOSC Committees and Subcommittees** (discussion and possible action). An overview of the roles and responsibilities of each Subcommittee were described and the new members were invited to join one or more FOSC Subcommittee. Brad Handel was added to serve on (a) Public Outreach and (b) Measure A Funds Allocation (as second alternate). Jonathan Sicroff was added to serve on (a) Acquisitions and (b) General Plan Open Space Element. Also, Susan Pascal Beran was deleted from serving on these subcommittees: (a) Acquisitions and (b) General Plan Open Space Element. She was added to the Fundraising Subcommittee.
- 3. FOSC Members Expressions:** *First Annual Pizza Night prior to regular meeting.*

REGULAR MEETING (Starts at 7 p.m.)

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Members Present: Michael Ardito, Charles Cornwell, Chance Cutrano, Brad Handel, Ruth Horn, Susan Pascal Beran, Jonathan Sicroff, Dahlia Siegel-Zigmund.
Members Absent: Chris Borjian, Jack Judkins
- 2. Approval of Agenda for February 25, 2020.** Agenda was adopted.
- 3. Open Time for Public Expressions.** Guests today included: Former Town Council Member Frank Egger, current Town Council Member Stephanie Hellman, former FOSC Members Helen Fauss and Denny Ferry, current Tree Committee Members Kathy Flores and Deborah Benson, Lynn and Bruce McDermott (neighbors to the 200 Toyon / Ben Ross property; and Jonathan Braun, co-chair of the San Anselmo Open Space Committee. *(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.)*
- 4. Next FOSC Film Night** (discussion and possible action). Guests Helen Fauss and Denny Ferry, former members of FOSC, were present to request that FOSC sponsor the next film night at the Fairfax Women's Club to show the documentary video titled "The Shame of Point Reyes" about protecting the native elk. The National Park Service is currently receiving comments about the allowance of continued dairies for the next 20 years on the Point Reyes National Seashore. FOSC voted to hold a film night on Friday, April 3 (based upon availability). Chance Cutrano would serve as moderator and invite panel members for a discussion after the film. Several FOSC members volunteered to help organize the film night.
- 5. FOSC Continuing Business** (updates, discussion and possible action on): (a) *Spring Lane properties near Sky Ranch:* Michael Ardito volunteered to follow-up with Public Works Director Mark Lockaby about the status of his letter to the residents and to contact realtor Russ Knudsen about the status of the nearby properties owned by the Lezzini Family (b) *Victory Village:*

Construction of the senior housing is continuing and there is no news about purchase of the two open space lots on the former church property or the “Joan Baez” amphitheater. (c) *Marinda Heights/Wall property*: There is no news as the status of procuring a contractor to conduct the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) has been in a holding pattern (d) *200 Toyon Drive*: FOSC voted to have representatives pursue with Fairfax Town officials, in their coordination with the Town Attorney, to draft a letter to Mr. Ben Ross strongly warning him to not destroy or disturb any endangered plants or animals on or near his property. A motion was also passed to have Chance Cutrano and Jonathan Sicroff reach out to Carl Somers with the Marin County Parks and Open Space to explore their potential interest in the parcel acquisition. (e) *Property for sale near Hawthorne Canyon Open Space in San Anselmo*: the San Anselmo Open Space Committee has indicated that the nine open space acres near Oak Springs is awaiting completion of the EIR. FOSC can delete this matter in continuing business until notified there is a need to include back in the agenda

6. **Concept to Amend General Plan Land Use Designations and Rezoning Town Owned Open Space** (discussion and possible action). The Town of Fairfax did not rezone and designate all Town-owned open space parcels as “open space” prior to the January 1, 2020 deadline. FOSC guests Jonathan Braun and Kathy Flores provided FOSC members electronically with the new San Anselmo Open Space Zoning Ordinance and Map. It was developed by the San Anselmo Planning Department and presented last September. FOSC will use those documents as models to develop a similar ordinance and map for Fairfax to be used if and when the Town is allowed again to do the rezoning. Kathy Flores of the Fairfax Tree Committee volunteered to be an “ex officio” member of the FOSC Subcommittee General Plan Open Space Element to develop this ad hoc project. Frank Egger also provided FOSC members with an electronic report about some history of Fairfax open space parcels.
7. **Treasurer’s Report**: Charles Cornwell reported that FOSC had \$41,693.31 in our account plus \$1,484.75 in PayPal donations for a total of \$43,178.06. That balance included reimbursements for purchase of “Rebels With a Cause” video used at our last film night.
8. **FOSC Outreach, Merchandise and Nature Walks** (discussion and possible action). Frank Egger volunteered to lead a tour for FOSC members of the Egger Redwood Preserve and the Gloria Duncan Open Space.
9. **Broom pulls and stewardship projects for 2020** (discussion and possible actions): Michael Ardito looked at Jolly Hill and it looks great so there is no need for FOSC to do any broom pulls there this year. At the Bald Hill / Sky Ranch broom pull sponsored by Marin County Parks on Saturday, February 8th, no members of FOSC were able to participate, but Larry Bragman of Fairfax was there as well as Kathy Sanders from the San Anselmo Open Space Committee.
10. **Open Space Fuel Loads and Fire Safe Marin** (discussion and possible action): Susan Pascal Beran. Ruth Horn will call Mark Lockaby, Public Works, about Fairfax getting goats in Fairfax this year to eat vegetation for wildfire prevention.
11. **New Housing Accountability Laws** (and Impacts on Open Space): Susan Pascal Beran deferred this item to the next meeting.
12. **Reports of activities from partner agencies** such as San Anselmo Open Space Committee (SAOSC); Bay Area Open Space Council; Marin Open Space Commission: FOSC representatives. SAOSC has scheduled their annual Spring Benefit for Saturday, April 25.
13. **Approval of FOSC Meeting Minutes and Notes from previous meetings** (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito will make one correction to the FOSC minutes for the December 3, 2019 meeting by deleting AB 68 from the agenda item about New Housing Accountability Laws and replacing it with reference to SB 35. With that, the minutes are accepted and can be posted to the FOSC section of the Town’s website. He will fix the legislative references regarding those New Housing Accountability laws and resubmit the draft minutes for the January 28, 2020 FOSC meeting.
14. **FOSC 2020 Calendar with Quorum Check and Agendas for Next FOSC meetings** (discussion and possible action). Michael Ardito will update the calendar for some April events.
15. **FOSC Members Expressions**. None. 16. **Adjournment** was about 9 p.m.