



MINUTES
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, January 26, 2021 at 7 p.m.
By Teleconference and Videoconference Only

Fairfax Open Space Members:

Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary	Jack Judkins, Vice Chair
Chris Borjian	Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Brad Handel	Jonathan Sicroff
Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary	Sophie Taubman, Youth Member (ex officio)

CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) ADVISORY NOTICE

Consistent with State of California Executive Order Nos. N-25-20 and N-29-20 and the Marin County Public Health Officer's Orders directing residents to shelter at home, this meeting will be held via teleconference only. There will not be an in-person physical meeting location.

Members of the public may watch, listen, and participate in the meeting as follows:

Watch on Zoom: Meeting ID: 863 1742 2371

Passcode: 864837

One tap mobile
+16699009128,

Due to last-minute technical issues, this FOSC meeting had to be hosted by the Vice Chair Jack Judkins with a new meeting ID: 865 1070 3903. All FOSC members and expected guests were notified of the Zoom ID change. The meeting began at 7:30 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m.

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.*

REGULAR MEETING (Starts at 7 p.m.)

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call:** Susan Pascal Beran, Chair opened the meeting at 7:30 p.m. after the meeting was reconvened after Zoom technical issues were resolved.
Members Present: Michael Ardito, Chris Borjian, Brad Handel, Ruth Horn, Jack Judkins, Susan Pascal Beran, Jonathan Sicroff, and Youth Member Sophie Taubman.
Members Absent: None; Quorum achieved
Guests included: Jonathan Braun, Co-Chair of the San Anselmo Open Space Committee; and potential FOSC member applicants: Heather Duplaisir, Diego Gonzalez, and Gregory Yates.
- 2. Approval of Agenda and affidavit of posting.** The agenda was approved for tonight's meeting. It was posted on the Town's website the previous Friday, January 22, 2021.
- 3. 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.*) None.
- 4. Update Report: FOSC Wonderfully Wild Marin Fundraiser** (discussion and possible action). SAOSC Co-Chair Jonathan Braun reported the fundraiser was a fabulous success. Susan Pascal Beran mentioned that some thank you letters may be generated to those participants that wonderfully helped with this project. A motion was passed to develop a specific proposal for renewing this

fundraiser for a 2022 calendar from FOSC and SAOSC. Susan will work with Jack Judkins and Heather Duplaisir on this for the next meeting.

5. **Proposal for Photo Survey of Existent Open Space Lands** and Environmentally Sensitive or Priority Acquisition Lands (discussion and possible action). A one paragraph summary of this proposed project will be developed. Youth member Sophie Taubman, who lives in Baywood Canyon, volunteered to take photos of nearby Loma Alta Open Space. Heather Duplaisir recommended a computer application “I Naturalist” to survey the land with a link to a National Geographic database and suggested a “bio blitz.” Jack Judkins indicated there may be a problem identifying the location of endangered species as this is guarded information. Former Fairfax Town Mayor Frank Egger provided an email in advance of this meeting to indicate there has been FOSC member interest to do a reconnaissance walk to two Fairfax open space properties up close: (a) the Frank Egger Redwood Preserve which was photographed in early fall by Donald Kinney and (b) the Gloria Duncan Creekside Preserve on Olema Road.
6. **Update on Bald Hill:** Jonathan Braun, SAOSC Co-Chair (discussion and possible action). Jonathan reported that the Marin Open Space Trust had concluded discussions on December 31 (after many years of effort) for a conservation easement as a charitable contribution from the owners of five acres on Bald Hill (two acres in Ross and three acres in San Anselmo). The area is steep with lots of Scotch broom and extremely difficult to reach. The land was formerly donated to the San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo in 1890 as a source for water supply.
7. **Reports of activities from partner agencies** such as San Anselmo Open Space Committee (SAOSC); Together Bay Area; One Tam: FOSC representatives (discussion and possible action). Jonathan Braun provided an update from SAOSC. They are involved in management of existing open space lands such as Kite Hill, Hawthorn Canyon Open Space, and Red Hill Trail. He also mentioned that San Anselmo is experiencing and trying to address more vandalism in parks and the dumping of garbage.
8. **Treasurer’s Report** (discussion and possible action). Jack Judkins contacted former FOSC Charles Cornwell and he still has the cashbox.
9. **Selection of new FOSC Treasurer and interim duties** (discussion and possible action). This item is being postponed until further notice.
10. **Recruitment for two new FOSC members** (discussion and possible action). Potential FOSC member candidates Heather Duplaisir, Diego Gonzalez, and Gregory Yates were given an opportunity to introduce themselves and ask questions about FOSC and the application process.
11. **Updates on FOSC Adoption of Acquisitions Subcommittee Recommendations:** Discussion and Possible Action regarding the relative priority of four open space properties potentially available for acquisition: (a) Wall property / Marinda Heights; (b) Two parcels behind Victory Village; (c) Tax-defaulted properties in Upper Ridgeway area; (d) 200 Toyon / Ben Ross property. *There was not much news, but the saving of Wall property open space remains a top priority.*
12. **Assignments and Reports from other FOSC Committees / Subcommittees** (discussion and possible action). Former FOSC member Chance Cutrano, elected to the Town Council, will now serve as the Council’s liaison to FOSC. No further updates.
13. **FOSC Outreach, Merchandise and Nature Walks** (discussion and possible action). Susan Pascal Beran has left phone messages for nature hike guide Nick Nutu, but has not heard anything back yet. It was mentioned that several FOSC current or former members are storing FOSC swag such as T-shirts (Chance Cutrano) and water bottles (Michael Ardito).
14. **FOSC Annual Goals for 2021** (discussion and possible action). Jonathan Sicroff has volunteered to lead the effort to develop annual goals for 2021 to establish smooth workflow with a tool kit for interested neighbors to save open space. He will work with Jack Judkins to create a template goals and achievements based upon the state’s fiscal year (July 1 to June 30). From that we can better develop an annual report of accomplishments.
15. **Approval of FOSC Meeting Minutes** from previous meetings (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito was requested to revise the minutes from the FOSC meetings held on September 22 and October 27 in regards to incorporating the write-ups submitted by Jack Judkins about the

summaries of the agenda items on the Report of FOSC Adoption of Acquisitions Subcommittee Recommendations. With those corrections, the FOSC meeting minutes were approved for those two months. The FOSC meeting minutes for December 8, 2020 will require a second review at the February 23, 2021 meeting.

- 16. Next Regular FOSC Meeting on Tuesday, February 23, 2021:** Quorum Check, Future Agenda Items (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito reported it appears FOSC will have a quorum for the next regular meeting scheduled for February 23.
- 17. FOSC Member Reports on Non-Agenda Items** (no discussions or actions allowed)
- 18. FOSC Update on Tribute** and Expression of Condolences to Family of James Redford (discussion and possible action). FOSC will continue to pursue naming future FOSC film nights in honor of “Jamie Redford.”
- 19. Adjournment** was about 9 p.m.