



**MINUTES**  
**FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 7 p.m.**  
**By Teleconference and Videoconference Only**

**Fairfax Open Space Members:**

Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary	Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary
Chris Borjian	Jack Judkins, Vice Chair
Heather Duplaisir	Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Diego Gonzalez, Treasurer	
Brad Handel	Dylann Cullinane, Youth Member (ex officio)

Consistent with State of California Executive Order Nos. N-25-20 and N-29-20 and the Marin County Public Health Officer's Orders, 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: 852 0568 5358**

**Passcode: 543394**

One tap mobile; +16699009128,

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85205685358?pwd=elZmZk94cXhsK2dLT1dXcWRoc3V1QT09>

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 852 0568 5358**

**And Passcode: 543394** 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.*

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA (Starts at 7 p.m.)**

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

*Members Present:* Michael Ardito, Chris Borjian, Heather Duplaisir, Brad Handel, Ruth Horn, Jack Judkins, Susan Pascal Beran, and Dylann Cullinane (youth member).

*Member Absent:* Diego Gonzalez

*Guests:* Chance Cutrano (Town Council liaison to FOSC), Linda Novy, Geoffrey Bolt, Frank Egger.

**2. Approval of Agenda and affidavit of posting.** The agenda was posted by Friday, August 20, 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.)*

Linda Novy, former FOSC member and current neighbor to Cascade Canyon's Elliott Nature Preserve (ENP), provide an update on bike-related issues at the ENP. She reported that she talked with Tom Boss of the Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC). Tom agreed to write a letter to

MCBC members regarding compliance with bike riding protocols in and around ENP. According to Linda, there are about 8 trails that bike riders are using that are not supposed to be used and, as well, bike riders are riding at night in the ENP although that is also not permitted. According to Linda, the ENP is expressly for nature-based visitation and education. ENP neighbor Geoffrey Bolt walked the ENP with Tom Boss and Vern Huffman to point out the biodiversity in the area that needs to be preserved. Linda noted that bike riders need to also comply with the Marin County Parks and Open Space rules and policies.

4. **Update: FOSC Members Portrait for Town of Fairfax** (done via Zoom by Stephanie Mohan, town photographer, at beginning of this meeting after roll call.)
5. **Future Town Officials Tour of Frank Egger Redwood Preserve and Gloria Duncan Creekside Preserve Open Space** (on Olema Road): Michael Ardito (discussion and possible action). Based upon availability, FOSC selected Sunday afternoon, September 26, 2021 as the members' choice for this guided tour by Frank Egger.
6. **Update on Bio-Blitz events** (discussion and possible action) Susan Pascal Beran. A bio-blitz event behind Victory Village was cancelled until liability issues can be worked out with Victory Village. Heather Duplaisir and Chance Cutrano volunteered to follow-up on resolving the issues.
7. **Update: Vacant Parcel Offered for Donation to Town on lower Cypress Drive** (discussion and possible action). Jack Judkins reported that he is working with interim Town Manager Adam Politzer and Planning Department's Linda Neal to get this item on the Town Council's consent calendar as soon as possible.
8. **Approval of Agenda Item Request Form and Discussion of Possible Meeting Procedures** (discussion and possible action): Jack Judkins presented the final form of the proposed FOSC "agenda item request form," which FOSC unanimously approved on a motion by Susan Pascal Beran, seconded by Jack Judkins. The form will be posted on the FOSC portion of the Town's website. Jack Judkins next presented to FOSC a draft of the proposed "FOSC Meeting Procedures," which was discussed by FOSC members. FOSC members requested that Jack Judkins make minor adjustments to the procedures and bring the revised Meeting Procedures back to FOSC for formal approval.
9. **Treasurer's Report:** Diego Gonzalez was absent from the meeting and this will be postponed to the next meeting.
10. **FOSC Outreach, Merchandise, Photo Survey Project, Calendar, and Nature Walks** (discussion and possible action). Susan Pascal Beran reported that the San Anselmo Open Space Committee was enthusiastic to again collaborate for a 2022 photo calendar. Susan wants to include in the calendar some nature photos of the Wall property and Victory Village. Susan reported that last year with the sale of 750 calendars, FOSC grossed \$4,000. FOSC voted approval for continuing to pursue this fundraising activity for the new 2022 calendar. With the resignation of Jonathan Sicroff, Susan requested to be added to the Outreach and Fund-raising Subcommittee.
11. **FOSC Proposed Outreach Participation in Fairfax Events (noon to 5 p.m.):** Town Picnic on Sunday afternoon, September 19, 2021 and Biketoberfest on Saturday afternoon, October 16 (discussion and possible action). Heather Duplaisir volunteered to organize the FOSC booth duty sign-up for participation in the Town Picnic to be held on September 19. Regarding the Biketoberfest on Saturday, October 16, Chris Borjian volunteered to ask Tom Boss from the Marin Bicycle Coalition to see if FOSC could receive a discount from the \$400 fee for non-profit organizations.
12. **Possible Acquisition of Tax-Defaulted Parcels on unimproved Upper Ridgeway with Marin Open Space Trust (MOST)-provided funding** (discussion and possible action): Jack Judkins reported that an anonymous donor provided MOST with funds (about \$36,000) to pay for two tax-defaulted properties on unimproved Upper Ridgeway for open space procedures by the Town from the County under its tax-defaulted property procedures. Based on the properties' location that is contiguous with three Town-owned open space parcels, including "Triangle Park", and a large San Anselmo-owned open space area (Hawthorne Canyon), their natural and visual resources, and their park and recreational opportunities, Jack Judkins made a motion, seconded by Susan Pascal Beran, that FOSC determine that these properties are a high priority for open space protection under the

FOSC Open Space Criteria and that FOSC recommend to the Town Council that it authorize acceptance of these properties at no cost to the Town, except for some minor transactional costs. FOSC unanimously approved the motion.

- 13. Status of Auction Properties in Fairfax** (discussion and possible action): Jack Judkins and Ruth Horn. At this time, Liz Clark at the Marin County office expects that the next auction will be held in February 2022.
- 14. Assignments and Reports from FOSC Committees / Subcommittees** (discussion and possible action): Acquisitions; Governance; Stewardship; Community Outreach & Fundraising
- 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: FOSC representatives (discussion and possible action). SAOSC co-chair Jonathan Braun has proposed to hold a combined Zoom meeting on Tuesday, September 21. San Anselmo is also having trail access issues magnified by increased trail usage during the pandemic. For example, the Hillside Avenue access to open space may be cut-off.
- 16. Approval of FOSC Meeting Minutes** from previous meetings (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito indicated with some possible revisions by FOSC members approval for the minutes from May 25 and June 22, 2021 will be postponed to the next meeting in September. The FOSC notes for the July 27 meeting do not need to be officially approved as there was not a quorum to hold votes.
- 17. Next Regular FOSC Meeting on Tuesday, September 28, 2021:** Quorum Check, Future Agenda Items (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito took a poll and it was unclear whether a quorum for September would be reached.
- 18. FOSC Member Reports on Non-Agenda Items** (no discussions or actions). FOSC member Diego Gonzalez recently became the father of a new-born son, Florian.
- 19. Adjournment** was at 9:08 p.m.