



**MINUTES**  
**FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING**  
**Tuesday, January 24, 2023 at 7 p.m. in-person and Zoom meeting**  
**Fairfax Women's Club**  
**46 Park Road, Fairfax, CA 94930**

**Fairfax Open Space Members:**

Michael Ardito, Co-Secretary	Ruth Horn, Co-Secretary
Geoffrey Bolt	Jack Judkins, Vice Chair
Heather Duplaisir	Susan Pascal Beran, Chair
Joe Franaszek	Teddy Catrini, Youth Member (ex officio)

**Virtual and In-Person Meeting Advisory Notice**

**Due to the declared State of Emergency and to ensure the health and safety of the public by limiting human contact that could spread the COVID-19 virus, and pursuant to AB 361 and Fairfax Town Council Resolution, this meeting will be held in-person and via teleconference. Members and the public can participate in the meeting in-person and in real time as follows:**

**Watch on Zoom with Meeting ID: 385 556 8697 and Passcode: 097432**

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3855568697?pwd=RHA3a2Ftb2lzTmpGOFA2MWt2MSs3dz09>

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**ID: 385 556 8697 and Passcode: 097432**

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: 385 556 8697**

**and Passcode: 097432** 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.* Preamble was read by Michael Ardito.

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

- 1. Call to Order, Roll Call:** Susan Pascal Beran, Chair called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.  
*Members present:* Michael Ardito, Geoffrey Bolt (via Zoom), Heather Duplaisir, Joe Franaszek, Ruth Horn, Jack Judkins, Susan Pascal Beran, Teddy Catrini (youth member). All members present.  
*Guests:* FOSC applicant Josh Weinik, FOSC Liaison from Fairfax Mayor Chance Cutrano, former Fairfax Mayor Frank Egger, Christine Garcia Kelly, Jessica Green.  
*Guest via Zoom:* Pamela Meigs, former FOSC member

2. **Approval of Agenda** (the agenda was approved)
3. **FOSC Support Letter to MOST for Measure A grant from Marin for Upper Hawthorne Canyon Purchase** (discussion and possible action). San Anselmo Open Space Committee (SAOSC) requested written support from the Town of Fairfax for its pursuit and purchase of the Upper Hawthorne Canyon open space in collaboration with Marin Open Space Trust (for use of Marin County and San Anselmo Measure A funds.) Jack Judkins will get a sample letter from SAOSC for use by the Town of Fairfax.
4. **Upper Hawthorne Canyon Open Space fundraiser with San Anselmo** (discussion and possible action). SAOSC requested help from Fairfax for its fundraising outreach to purchase the Upper Hawthorne Canyon, which is immediately adjacent to Fairfax open space near the Upper Ridgeway and Willow Avenue neighborhoods. FOSC voted to provide from its non-Measure A discretionary funds \$2,000 for the SAOSC public outreach which included residents in the Upper Ridgeway and Willow Avenue neighborhoods in Fairfax. Also, FOSC voted a donation of \$10,000 to Marin Open Space Trust (MOST) from FOSC non-Measure A funds (the FOSC account for which FOSC has raised funds since 2004 for open space acquisition) for this land purchase. Jonathan Braun indicated that SAOSC is seeking \$175,000 in additional donations to complete the purchase this calendar year. At this time, there is a \$100,000 grant from Marin Measure A funds; a donation of \$200,00 from SAOSC; and \$75,000 in individual donations received for this open space acquisition.
5. **Status of Town Acceptance of Open Space Land Donation near Canyon Road and Adjacent to Egger Grove for Potential Access** (discussion and possible action). This is the Cresci Family land donation near the Egger Grove Redwood Preserve for a possible public easement to the open space. The FOSC Acquisition Subcommittee recommended to accept the donation. We are awaiting the Town Planning Department's recommendation on acceptance prior to the March 1 Town Council meeting.
6. **Status of Fairfax Housing Element Update Process and Impacts for: (a) Town-owned Public Open Space such as Jolly Hill; and (b) Open Space not owned by the Town such as Wall property and parcels behind Victory Village** (discussion and possible actions). Mayor Chance Cutrano and FOSC Liaison clarified that the housing proposal for the Jolly Hill Open Space has been deleted from Town Council consideration at this time, but that the Wall property and Victory Village open space remain on the proposed housing element. Jack Judkins will draft a letter for the next Town Council meeting and Heather Duplaisir will edit it. There are inconsistencies to list some properties for housing when the Town has designated some as open space priority.
7. **Status of Tax Default Purchase of Upper Ridgeway Parcels for Open Space**. At this time, there is no further update on this 1.55 acre parcel. The property owner heirs need to be notified of this tax default and possible auction.
8. **Status of Auction for Tax Default Open Space Parcels in Fairfax**. Ruth Horn, indicated that at this time, there is no date for the Marin auction of tax default open space parcels in Fairfax.
9. **FOSC Film Night on Saturday, February 4, 2023: "In Light of Reverence."** (preparation, discussion and possible actions). The film, released in 2001, is a 72-minute documentary that took about 10 years to produce with a compilation of interviews from at least three Native American tribes in the 1990s about the origin of sacred lands. The website link is [sacredland.origin/in-the-light-of-reverence](http://sacredland.origin/in-the-light-of-reverence). A sign-up sheet was sent around for film night tasks and snack/refreshment table donations. Doors will open at 6:30 with the film at 7 p.m. followed by a discussion led by moderator Heather Duplaisir and members of the Coastal Miwok Tribe. Heather's husband, Nate, will set-up the audio/visual arrangements with the FOSC projector that Chance Cutrano provided from his long-time care during the pandemic era and our last film night in 2019. FOSC members should wear their FOSC T-shirts. Heather indicated she will develop a checklist FOSC can use for future film nights.
10. **FOSC Outreach, Merchandise, Storage of Materials, Photo Survey Project, and Nature Walks** (discussion and possible actions). Heather Duplaisir will order more FOSC T-shirts to replenish our supply for fundraisers. The next Bio-Blitz event was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, February 25 at the Elliott Nature Preserve or another location to be determined.

- 11. Grant Writing for Open Space Grant Applications** (Susan Pascal Beran, discussion and possible future action). This item is postponed to future meetings.
- 12. Treasurer's Report** (updates, discussion for future appointment of new FOSC Treasurer). In the absence of a current FOSC treasurer, Jack Judkins reported that Fairfax Finance Manager Michael Vivrette indicated FOSC has two accounts. As of Dec.31, 2022, there was about \$100,000 in the Measure A account; and about \$55,000 in the FOSC non-Measure A account. In 2008, FOSC accepted contributions for acquiring the Wall property. FOSC needs to make clear these designated funds are segregated from other donations.
- 13. Update on FOSC Social Media Accounts** (discussion and possible actions for reactivating the accounts). Teddy Catrini, youth member, updated posts to our social media accounts.
- 14. Reports from FOSC Committees / Subcommittees** (discussion, possible actions and reassignments): Acquisitions; Governance; Stewardship; Community Outreach & Fundraising; Measure A. There were no substantive updates.
- 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; Friends of Corte Madera Creek: FOSC representatives (discussions). There were no substantive updates.
- 16. Dedication of Egger Preserve; Signage Program for Fairfax Open Space Properties** (discussion and possible future action). Frank Egger continues to work on getting the donated wood necessary for the signage.
- 17. Adopt-a-Tree Program** (discussion and possible fundraiser future action). This item was postponed to a future meeting.
- 18. Approval of FOSC Meeting Minutes from October 25 and December 6, 2022** (discussion and possible approval action): Michael Ardito. Minutes for the October 25, 2022 were approved for finalization.
- 19. Preparation of FOSC Annual Reports** (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito and Joe Franaszek. This item is to be continued.
- 20. Next FOSC Meeting on February 28, 2023:** Quorum Check, Future Agenda Items (discussion and possible action): Jack Judkins reported that he will be absent from the February 28 meeting, but we should still have a quorum.
- 21. FOSC Member Reports on Non-Agenda Items** (no discussions or actions)
- 22. Adjournment** was at 8:55 p.m.