



MINUTES
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 7 p.m. in-person only
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	Josh Weinik
	Teddy Catrini, Youth Member (ex officio)

Pre-Meeting of Youth Member Interview Panel at 6:30 p.m. with candidate Corina Karr.

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, Roll Call:** Susan Pascal Beran, Chair conducted the roll call at 7:15 p.m.
Members Present: Michael Ardito, Geoffrey Bolt, Heather Duplaisir, Joe Franaszek, Ruth Horn, Susan Pascal Beran, youth member Teddy Catrini
Members Absent: Jack Judkins, Josh Weinik
Guests included: FOSC member applicant Christine Kelly; FOSC youth member applicant Corina Karr; Town Council liaison Mayor Chance Cutrano; former FOSC member Pamela Meigs.
- 2. Approval of Agenda.** The agenda was approved unanimously.
- 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. Wall Property (status of financial default and update for Marin Open Space Trust) --** (discussion and possible action). The auction of the Wall / Marinda Heights property due to default on the investors' loan was still scheduled to occur on Thursday morning, March 2, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. on the steps of San Rafael City Hall. MOST and / or FOSC representatives are planning to attend to learn the outcome.
- 5. FOSC Support Letter for Town Council to MOST for Measure A grant from Marin for Upper Hawthorne Canyon Purchase** (update, discussion and possible action). This agenda item on the Town Council meeting agenda was postponed until April 5 and thus postponed until the next FOSC meeting in March.
- 6. Upper Hawthorn Canyon Open Space support and fundraiser with San Anselmo** (update, discussion and possible action.) No fundraiser with San Anselmo is scheduled at this time.
- 7. Status of Town Acceptance of Open Space Land Donation from Cresci Family near Canyon Road and Adjacent to Egger Grove for Potential Access** (discussion and possible action). FOSC members were unaware that the Town's staff report was recommending to not accept this land donation. Thus, Mayor Chance Cutrano indicated this item on the Town Council agenda will be postponed until the issues can be discussed with FOSC at our March 28, 2023 meeting.

8. **Updates about Bio-Blitz events and City Nature Challenge** (Heather Duplaisir). The FOSC Bio-Blitz will be held on Saturday morning, April 29 as part of the City Nature Challenge as supported by the California Academy of Sciences. The location will probably be at the top of Marinda Drive. In the afternoon, the Tam Van is scheduled to be parked at Carson Falls.
9. **Bio-Blitz presentations by FOSC** (proposal and discussion). Willow Taraja, on behalf of the Fairfax Library, sent an email to share the library's excitement to partner with FOSC. The library is looking forward to hosting an upcoming BioBlitz presentation for family members by Heather Duplaisir on Wednesday evening, April 19 from 6:30 to 7:30. The library also extended its invitation to FOSC to consider offering additional informational sessions to engage and inform community members about the work and stewardship of FOSC. The library has a community room space that FOSC can utilize along with a projector and screen.
10. **FOSC Film Night on Saturday, February 4, 2023: "In Light of Reverence."** (follow-up and thank you notes). FOSC members signed a thank you note addressed to Mr. Joe Sanchez, tribal elder with the Coastal Miwok Tribal Council of Marin, for participating in our film night discussion following the movie. Heather Duplaisir asked that certificates of appreciation be provided to Good Earth organic foods and Amelie bistro for their generous donations for food and beverage donations for film night.
11. **FOSC Outreach, Merchandise, Storage of Materials, Photo Survey Project, and Nature Walks** (discussion and possible actions). FOSC members voted to provide reimbursement to Heather Duplaisir for the shipping costs to her of the FOSC replenishment T-shirts that were ordered.
12. **Grant Writing for Open Space Grant Applications** (Susan Pascal Beran, discussion and possible future action). This item was postponed to a future meeting.
13. **Treasurer's Report** (updates, discussion for future appointment of new FOSC Treasurer). This item was postponed to a future meeting.
14. **Update on FOSC Social Media Accounts** (discussion and possible actions for reactivating the accounts). No updates.
15. **Reports from FOSC Committees / Subcommittees** (discussion, possible actions and reassignments): Acquisitions; Governance; Stewardship; Community Outreach & Fundraising; Measure A. (1) Chair Susan Pascal Beran reported that on behalf of the Acquisitions Subcommittee, she submitted a memorandum to the to the Town Councilmembers, the Town Manager and the Town Planning Director regarding open space at Victory Village and Wall property. The memo was about the Town's Updated Housing Element and the FOSC objection to the inclusion of the Wall and Victory Village undeveloped lands on the list of sites for meeting housing requirements. In 2015, those lands were identified and acknowledged as Priority Conservation Areas (PCAs) by the Town and the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG). (2) In other matters, the review and reassignments for the Subcommittees will be discussed at the next FOSC meeting with our two newest members.
16. **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 (discussion). No updates.
17. **Dedication of Egger Preserve; Signage Program for Fairfax Open Space Properties** (discussion and possible future action.) Frank Egger is continuing to seek donation of three redwood slabs that can be engraved to provide signage for the Egger Redwood Grove Preserve; the Gloria Duncan Creekside Preserve; and the Jolly Hill Open Space.
18. **Adopt-a-Tree Program** (discussion and possible fundraiser future action): Geoffrey Bolt was advised to coordinate with the Fairfax Tree Committee about resurrecting this idea for collaboration on this project.
19. **Approval of FOSC Meeting Minutes from December 6, 2022; January 24, 2023; and special meeting on February 14, 2023** (discussion and possible approval action): The meeting minutes for December 8 were approved for finalization and submission to the Town for filing and posting.
20. **Preparation of FOSC Annual Reports** (discussion and possible action): Michael Ardito and Joe Franaszek have postponed this to a future meeting.

- 21. Next FOSC Meeting on March 28, 2023:** Quorum Check, Future Agenda Items (discussion and possible action): Heather Duplaisir requested that Earth Day activities be agendaized for our March meeting. It appears that we will have a quorum for our next meeting on March 28.
- 22. FOSC Member Reports on Non-Agenda Items** (no discussions or actions). There was a request to find out the status of the Marin Municipal Water District and Marin County Recreation Plans regarding recommendations for any improvements to the Elliott Nature Preserve.
- 23. Appointment of FOSC Additional Youth Member Corina Karr.** Corina was unanimously approved for appointment as our second, current youth member.
- 24. Adjournment** was at 8:15 p.m.