



MINUTES
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, February 14, 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)

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.* Read by Michael Ardito

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA (Started at 7 p.m.)

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

Members Present: Michael Ardito, Heather Duplaisir, Joe Franaszek, Ruth Horn, Jack Judkins, Susan Pascal Beran, Josh Weinik, Teddy Catrini (youth member)

Member Absent: Geoffrey Bolt

Guests Included: Marin Open Space Trust Board Members – Chair Bill Long; Ralph Mihan (legal counsel and founding member); Jonathan Braun, MOST member and San Anselmo Open Space Committee Co-Chair; FOSC member applicant Christine Garcia Kelly; FOSC youth member applicant Corina Karr; Pamela Meigs, former FOSC member

2. Approval of Special Agenda (approved unanimously)

3. Wall Property Status and Strategies (discussion and possible action) Following the January 24, 2023 FOSC meeting, a public notice was posted by MK Consultants regarding a default sale of the Marinda Heights (Wall property) development on Thursday, March 2, 2023. This sales date may be postponed as the Wall property owner and investors attempt to resolve payment of over \$1.65 million due on its February 12, 2018 deed of trust. In preparation for change in the status of the land, MOST (Marin Open Space Trust) offered to provide a draft outline to FOSC on the general steps to take in arranging for the purchase of land for open space.

Interested Purchasers: The groups likely to be interested in purchasing this property include:

- a) YIMBY (Yes in My Back Yard) – a pro-housing development organization which appears to believe preservation of open space lands is merely an excuse to stall providing for current housing needs.
- b) The County of Marin may be interested in this property for open space, using a possible 20 to 30 percent funding from Measure A, if there is an updated and independent appraisal of the property.
- c) MOST (Marin Open Space Trust) could facilitate arranging the purchase of the property particularly identifying funding sources and holding the land while it is in escrow for purchase by Marin or other public entities – such as an option for County/Town purchase of the property. However, to do this, MOST would need expressions of approval from Marin County (Board of Supervisors; Marin Parks and Open Space) and Town entities (Fairfax Town Council, Public Works and Park & Recreation Department).

Possible Funding Sources: Among the ways of funding the purchase of the property include:

- a) Measure A funding (versions 1 and 2) using the newly developed process for obtaining such grants.

b) Placing a possible tax measure on the ballot to fund open space purchases, such as done for Pacheco Valley in Ignacio.

c) The Coastal Miwok Tribal Council has expressed interest in purchasing this land for its own use, possibly related to open space.

4. **Follow-up, Reimbursements and Thank You Expressions for FOSC Film Night on Saturday, February 4, 2023: “In the Light of Reverence”** (discussion and approval actions). FOSC unanimously voted to reimburse Heather Duplaisir’s husband, Nate, the \$30.99 to purchase a necessary IT adaptor for the movie projection. The IT adaptor will be kept by FOSC for future programs. (Susan Pascal Beran moved and Michael Ardito seconded this motion.) FOSC unanimously voted to reimburse Heather Duplaisir \$1,504.65 for the purchase of 136 FOSC quality T-shirts in various sizes to replenish our supply for sale at future fundraisers. (Joe Franaszek made the motion and Michael Ardito seconded.) Heather Duplaisir requested that thank you notes be written and sent to Good Earth for its \$100 donation to the movie night fundraiser; Amelie Café for providing food and beverages; and to Miwok Tribal leader Joe Sanchez for serving as a speaker in the discussion portion of the program.
5. **Adjournment** was at 8:20 p.m.