

RESOLUTION NO. 2323

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
ESTABLISHING AN OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

Whereas, the citizens of the Town of Fairfax have long cultivated a deep appreciation of the biodiversity and special beauty of their local environment; and,

Whereas, there remains environmentally sensitive lands in the Town of Fairfax that are subject to development pressures which threaten the loss of unique environmental and aesthetic qualities for future generations of citizens; and,

Whereas, development issues can be particularly divisive to the social fabric of our community and the web of relationships which sustain it; and,

Whereas, the citizens of Fairfax have long demonstrated a preference to exercise local control and dominion over our remaining open space;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfax Town Council establish an Open Space Committee to access open space acquisition opportunities, raise funds and support within the community for such proposals and advise the Town Council on matters of common concern; and that the Committee be formed as follows:

The Open Space Committee shall consist of seven citizens who reside within Fairfax. Membership on the Open Space Committee shall be approved by the Fairfax Town Council from applications submitted by interested Fairfax residents. The Town Clerk shall publish a notice announcing the availability of positions on the Open Space Committee whenever a vacancy becomes available.

Members of the Open Space Committee shall serve for terms of four years. The Committee shall elect a chairman and such other officers as necessary to run their meetings in accordance with local and state rules of procedure and decorum.

The Committee, through the Town Clerk, shall provide notice of its meetings in accordance with local and state rules; it shall keep minutes of its meetings, and such minutes shall be kept on file with the Town as a public record;

The Town of Fairfax shall provide such services and space as reasonably necessary to effectuate the orderly meetings and purposes of the Open Space Committee;

The Committee shall have in its purview responsibility to survey the lands within, and adjacent to, the Town of Fairfax in order to determine the availability of unique, threatened, or environmentally sensitive land parcels that may be appropriate to acquire to hold in perpetuity as dedicated open space for the public;

The Committee shall also have responsibility for the consideration of long term planning of open space in and near Fairfax, for the generation of community support for the implementation of that program and for the fund raising necessary to implement the plan;

The Open Space Committee may also involve itself as an advisory body in the consideration of long term planning for the Town and also review planning and development matters in order to formulate policy it may deem appropriate to advocate;

The Committee is an advisory body to the Town Council and its role is to advocate for open space;

Decision making is a collective process by the Committee as a whole. Town staff is encouraged to provide reasonable support to the Committee in order to serve the community as a whole, under the general direction of the Town Council.

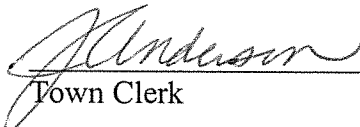
The Committee is charged with the responsibility to hold regular meetings not less than once every two months and provide a yearly report to the Town Council summarizing its activities, its budget and any possible acquisitions of lands, development rights, or other expenditures.

Adopted on May 4, 2004 by the following vote:

AYES: Bragman, Brandborg, Ghiringhelli, Tremaine, Mayor Egger
NOES: None
ABSENT: None


FRANK EGGER, MAYOR

Attest:


Town Clerk