



## MINUTES FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

263 Bolinas Road, Fairfax  
June 24, 2008, 7:30 PM – 10:00PM

### OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:

Mimi Newton - Chair	
Ted Bright	Ruth Horn
Barbara Coler	Jack Judkins
Niccolo Caldararo	Pam Meigs
Helen Fauss	Ryan O'Neil – Co-Chair
Denise Ferry	Jane Richardson-Mack

1. Roll call: Mimi Newton, Barbara Coler, Helen Fauss, Denise Ferry, Ruth Horn, Pam Meigs (arrived later)  
City Council: Larry Bragman  
Town Liaison: Ian Roth  
Guests: Ray Moritz, Linda Novy, Martha Ture, another Fairfax resident
2. Approval of agenda (agenda revised to move item 8 after item 4)
3. Approval of minutes of May 27, 2008
4. Presentation and discussion – Sudden Oak Death (SOD) – Ray Moritz, licensed arborist: background provided on appearance in Marin County ~1991, after plantings of rhododendron (a known host of SOD). Ray is a forest scientist who has done research on SOD and served on CA Oak Mortality Committee. Various treatments explored by Marin Co. arborists. Two types of SOD: 1) attack roots & 2) attack aboveground tree. Phosphenate is most effective on trees in the field. Australians developed “agriphos” (same family as phosphenate) which stopped sporilization and tried on SOD, relatively effective. Mineralization of soils- no scientific evidence that it treats SOD, but makes trees healthier. Lime also used on tree trunks – no scientific evidence that this treats SOD. AgriFos (phosphoric acid<sup>1</sup> mixed with “penta-bar), scientific evidence that it treats SOD, if cankers are not extensive. It is not a cure, “holds it” and needs continued treatment into the future (twice in the 1<sup>st</sup> year, once every 12-18 months). There is great variation in two Marin Co. oaks in their resistance to SOD, e.g. Interior Live Oak has not shown SOD, found on Mt. Tam. Discussion of replacement trees, stated that bay laurel has come in other areas. Suggested looking as far as Santa Barbara County for replacement species of Oaks.<sup>2 3</sup>
5. Discussion and action: Frank Egger Redwood Grove

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<sup>1</sup> See attached MSDS provided by notetaker

<sup>2</sup> See <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn7498.html#MANAGEMENT> (provided by notetaker) for UC Davis discussion of SOD.

<sup>3</sup> See <http://nature.berkeley.edu/garbelotto/> (provided by Denise Ferry) for Dr. Garbelloto website on SOD research.

- A. Access issues – Larry Bragman – letter received from the owner, read to FOSC. Essentially owner is not interested in entering into an agreement or access to the extent required by the easement. Posting signage suggested for City Council discussion.
- B. Signage and dedication – Denise Ferry discussion of text – FOSC voted for 5mph for bikes along with existing text; Denise to forward signage text to Larry for City Council discussion. Dedication – continue to next month.
- C. Removal of creek obstruction – Mimi Newton – pending; continue to next month.
- D. Management Plan review – Mimi Newton – continue to next month.

6. 120 Day Report: Subcommittee to review Ridgeline Ordinance and map - consideration of purchase of GPS – Ted Bright, Ryan O’Neil, Niccolo Calararo, Ruth Horn. Larry Bragman – suggested strengthening the ordinance with map. Logistics of scanning and preserving the map discussed. Action item: staff to locate map and follow-up with Larry.

7. Update: The Wall Property

- A. Council letter to Dr. Wall – staff – no response to date.
- B. Grant application package – Helen Fauss – pending, need resolution on property price and is the property on the market. Inquiries ongoing. Staff should check Tax Assessor’s office on reassessment, etc.
- C. Letters to Hal Brown, Jared Huffman, San Anselmo (urban green zone) – Mimi Newton – Larry provided draft language to Hal Brown to FOSC; signatory would be Fairfax Mayor or Town Manager.
- E. ABAG – Mimi Newton- continue to next month.
- F. Additional item – Marin Open Space Trust (MOST) – Mimi Newton – they voted to work with FOSC on acquisition. FOSC should take Bill Long and another MOST member on field trip.

8. Discussion and action: Cascade Canyon Preserve – County management and EIR proposed change – Terry Goyan (not in attendance). Informational item: Linda Novy and Martha Ture – background on Cascade Canyon and White Hill Land Management Plan and EIR (adopted 2005) with lists of priorities. Strategic Plan (with appendices) adopted June 2008. Cascade Canyon is listed with most dangerous open space areas for fire. Priorities of EIR (Priority 1s in particular) have not been implemented and they are concerned that they may be circumvented. Seeking FOSC support and letter (FOSC and/or City Council) for implementation of Priority 1 items from EIR. Three items noted regarding the letter re: Cascade Canyon: 1) concerned with Fire safety; 2) are they using EIR priorities e.g. not opening Split Rock area for mt. biking (alt. language – concerned with safety of those in the preserve); 3) adopting steel head management plan (alt. language – concerned with resource management). Request that the District stay with the priorities in the EIR. Also note that the District is looking for Fairfax Police to patrol at night. Action item: Novy and Ture will send EIR Cover page with Executive Summary and priorities to FOSC and critical points where City support is requested (& highlight where there have been violations/changes from the EIR) – 30-45 days. Linda will send Strategic Plan and appendices to FOSC; appendices to Larry. Possible field trip for FOSC after staff review conducted of these materials.

9. Treasurer’s Report: Ted Bright – continue to next meeting. Inclusion of Open Space funds re: City Council budget discussions. Larry will agendaize this item.

10. Discussion of dates for August joint meeting with San Anselmo Open Space Committee – FOSC agreed to joint meeting in August.

11. Officer selection for next month – continue to next month.

12. Update: Council approval for acquisition of Ben Ross Property at June 4<sup>th</sup> meeting – Mimi Newton and Ian Roth – owner seeking release from \$400K loan, property sale for \$800k. Owner interest in \$00K upfront; wait for later funds. County Open Space may have matching funds. FOSC expressed enthusiasm to continue to pursue.

13. Subcommittee reports:

A. Acquisition

B. Fundraising – Mimi Newton

- 1) Discussion – Eco Fest sales and evaluation – t shirt sales excellent; art sale was not successful.
- 2) Update: Frame-a-View with town artist-in-residence – contact Mimi Newton if you have a particular view for framing.
- 3) Canvassing Wall and Ross Properties’ neighbors – continue to next month. Discussion or canvassing or other options (focused on particular groups).
- 4) Organic pancake breakfast – Pam Meigs – Pam will lead and organize all volunteers (e.g., Police & Fire Department); no participation from others in FOSC needed.

C. Governance – continue to next meeting.

D. Public Outreach – continue to next meeting.

E. Stewardship – continue to next meeting.

14. Update: Community service – supervision – where, when, what – Mimi Newton – continue to next meeting.

15. Update: General Plan: Conservation and Open Space Elements – Mimi Newton – continue to next meeting.

16. Discussion and handouts: Pollinator Week, June 22-28 – Mimi Newton – purchase plants for landscaping that will attract pollinators (many do not); pollinators are disappearing.

16. Open time for public expression – Fairfax resident interested in SOD. Discussion of Cascade Canyon by Linda Novy and Martha Ture. Item on MOST.