



MINUTES
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE

16 Park Road, Fairfax

Tuesday, August 24, 2010, 7:30 PM

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:

Mimi Newton - Chair

Michael Ardito

Helen Fauss

Ted Bright

Ruth Horn

Barbara Coler

Jack Judkins

Chelsea Donovan

Ryan O'Neil – Co-Chair

1. Roll call

Present: Mimi, Michael, Ted, Barbara, Chelsea, Ruth, Helen, Jack.

Also present: Jolie Egert

2. Assignment of Secretary duties

Elections for all FOSC positions to be placed on agenda for September [*Action Item: Mimi – put on Sept. agenda*]. Jack assigned to take on secretarial duties for August meeting.

3. Approval of Minutes of 7-27-10:

As revised, approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of Agenda for 8-24-10:

As revised (Open Time for Public Expression moved to Item 4), approved by unanimous vote.

4. Time for Open Expression

Jolie Egert, a resident of the County, who lives adjacent to the Town border, introduced herself and expressed an interest in serving on the FOSC. Jolie has a variety of skills and interests including a background in environmental science that would be of benefit to the FOSC. [*Action Item: Mimi - check with Town Manager to determine if non-Town resident may serve on FOSC*].

5. Treasurer's Report

Current Bank of America account has balance of \$7,151.26, including \$55 in sales at the Good Fest. Laurie Ireland-Ashley, Town Finance Director, to attend September meeting to provide final report on all FOSC Town accounts. [*Action Item: Mimi and Ted to meet with Laurie before Sept. meeting; Mimi to place on Sept. Agenda*].

6. Rules for Use of Open Space

Continued to September meeting

7. Annual Report

Mimi prepared draft, which the FOSC member discussed and made suggestions for revision. *[Action Item: Mimi to prepare revised Annual Report and provide to FOSC members and then to Town Council]*

8. Update on Open Space and Conservation Elements

Mimi reported that both draft updated elements have been reviewed and considered by the Planning Commission. The next step is for a “super committee” to finalize both documents. *[Action Item: Mimi to distribute up-to-date versions of Open Space and Conservation Elements]*

9. Subcommittee Reports

A. Acquisitions

There was discussion about the recent sale by auction of property in Town and the inability of FOSC to act within the short timelines required. *[Action Item: Jack to talk to Town Manager regarding concept of FOSC being provided with authority to act to acquire land where not possible to obtain prior Council approval]*

Discussion on the Wall property: by unanimous vote, it was agreed that a letter should be sent to the current owners again indicating interest in discussing possibility of sale to Town as open space. *[Action Item: Jack to prepare draft letter]*

Ruth provided information on a property for sale in her neighborhood, adjacent to open space. . *[Action Item: Ruth to gather additional information for September meeting]*

Mimi presented a request by a neighbor of Councilmember Weinssoff on Ridgeway that the neighbor purchase adjacent Town lots and retain those lots as perpetual privately-held open space. There was discussion on whether this could be achieved by an easement in favor of the Town and whether the larger lot acreage would permit additional improvements on the parcels. *[Action Item: Mimi and Jack to contact Jim Moore, Planning Director]*

Jack reported that Jim Moore, Planning Director, has reached conceptual agreement with the management of Bennett House for an easement to allow public access to the Town-owned Jolly Hill parcel. If Bennett House Board approves, the terms of the easement will be negotiated and the needed easement area surveyed.

B. Fundraising

Mimi reported on of an opportunity to raise funds through a program offered by Lydia's Loving Foods. *[Action Item: Chelsea to follow up on Lydia's Loving Food program]*

C. Governance

FOSC unanimously approved certificate of appreciation for former members Nicolo, Jane and Denny, to be presented at Town Council meeting with Annual Report. *[Action Item: Mimi and Michael to prepare certificates]*

D. Website

Barbara reported that she has added FOSC subcommittees and new FOSC members to website and that Chelsea has taken photos of merchandise available for sale. Website will continue to be developed over time.

10. Town Picnic

Mimi reported that the Town Picnic is Sunday September 19, noon- 5pm and that requested FOSC member to sit at the FOSC table. *[Action Item: Mimi to send out schedule for sign-up]*. Jolie Egert (guest) and Chelsea suggested that we seek signatures from Town residents at the Picnic on a letter/petition to the owners of the Wall property expressing interest in retaining the Wall property as open space. FOSC members unanimously supported this proposal. *[Action Item: Chelsea and Jolie to prepare letter/petition]*

11. Follow-up on July meeting "Action Items"

Mimi reported that she had submitted FOSC as a recipient of funds under a program, "Tuesday Give Back Night", offered by Iron Springs Brew Pub, but had not had any contact from Iron Springs.

Mimi reported that the town Manager approved, in concept, a FOSC Face Book group page, but will need to review content. *[Action Item: Chelsea to register FOSC Fan page]*

[Action Item: Jack to contact Town Clerk regarding required specificity of Agenda Items]

12. Miscellaneous Items

None

Meeting was adjourned.