



**MINUTES
FAIRFAX OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE**

16 Park Road, Fairfax

October 26, 2010, 7:30 PM

OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE:

Mimi Newton - Chair

| | |
|-----------------|------------------------|
| Michael Ardito | Jacob Feickert |
| Ted Bright | Ruth Horn |
| Barbara Coler | Jack Judkins |
| Chelsea Donovan | Linda Novy |
| Jolie Egert | Ryan O'Neil – Co-Chair |

1. Roll call

Present: Mimi, Chelsea, Jolie, Jacob, Ruth, Jack, Linda, Ryan, Barbara.
Also present: Kathy Wilkie, Town PW Director, Tom Boss, citizen.

2. Approval of Minutes of 9-28-10:

Approved by unanimous vote.

Approval of Agenda for 10-26-10:

As revised (Open Time for Public Expression moved to Item 4 and Stewardship Subcommittee discussion of Tamarancho cell phone tower moved to 1st item under Subcommittee reports), approved by unanimous vote.

3. Treasurer's Report

Continued to next regular meeting.

4. Time for Open Expression

Tom Boss introduced himself and offered to assist in common interests. He is a Fairfax resident, who is involved in the Marin County Bicycle Coalition (MCBC), the Bay Area Ridge Trail Council and the Trail Stewards. There was discussion of common interests, including the loss of public trails closed by property owners.

5. Discussion of Berg litigation

The tentative decision in the case, if made final, would preclude use of the existing easement for public access. *Action item: Ryan/Kathy Wilkie to organize an outing to the Berg property, using alternative access or through existing easement as part of Town maintenance and oversight. Kathy to provide copy of easement.*

6. Rules for Use of Open Space

After discussion of topics including group use and pets (Town utilizes County laws which require leash), the matter was continued to November meeting. **Action Item: *The Stewardship Subcommittee is to prepare a proposed revised draft of rules for adoption, taking into consideration the Committee discussion.***

7. Subcommittee Reports

A. Stewardship

Tamarancho Tower. Chelsea gave information on a proposed cell tower on Tamarancho (BSA) property, which is visible from various points in Fairfax. Moved and seconded that Mimi prepare with Chelsea a letter regarding concern about the siting as contrary to Town Open Space requirements (impact on ridgelines and viewshed) and County planning laws and request Town Council to send letter to County. Passed by a vote of 7-0 with Ryan abstaining. **Action Items: *Mimi and Chelsea to prepare letter and take to Council; Chelsea to distribute information about tower application.***

Linda reported that she had made copies of Open Space map of Town and given to new members.

B. Acquisitions

Acquisition Priorities. The proposed criteria have been updated as a result of recent trial use. Discussion and action on the draft criteria deferred to November meeting. **Action Item: *Jack to distribute revised draft Criteria.***

Pine Street property. Jack, Chelsea and Jolie did a site visit of this property that is beyond the end of the paved portion of Pine Street. Although the property did have connection to trails, has Madrone trees and is part of an undeveloped wildlife corridor, it is also steep and would require significant road and utility improvements to develop. Under the updated draft priority criteria, the conclusion was that this was not a current priority at a cost of \$10,800. Concern about fires issues and maintenance also were raised.

Discussion of protection areas: Deferred to next meeting. **Action Item: *Jolie will investigate availability of GIS mapping available to Town through County web-site (Marin Map).***

Willow Street Property. **Action Item: *Subcommittee to investigate and return for discussion at next meeting***

Other discussion items deferred to November meeting (Wall property, Bennett house easement, tax defaulted property list). **Action Item: Jolie to contact Nick Gafney RE: his PR firm and follow-up on Wall Property potential.**

B. Fundraising

Iron Springs fundraiser. **Action Item: Mimi to distribute new dates for decision at November meeting.**

November meeting Agenda item: ideas and brainstorming regarding fundraising activities.

C. Governance

The new FOSC members joined subcommittees, so that the membership is as follows:

Governance - Ted Bright, Barbara Coler, Mimi Newton, Ryan O'Neil
Fundraising - Chelsea Donovan, Jack Judkins, Mimi Newton
Acquisitions – Chelsea Donovan, Jolie Egert, Jacob Feickert, Ruth Horn, Jack Judkins
Stewardship - Jacob Feickert, Linda Novy, Ryan O'Neil
Public Outreach – Michael Ardito, Ryan O'Neil
Website - Barbara Coler, Ryan O'Neil

D. Website

Update deferred to November. **Action Item: Barbara will add new members to subcommittee lists on FOSC website.**

10. Update on Open Space and Conservation Elements

Mimi reported that she will be attending a Town “super committee” retreat to finalize both documents on November 4 and requested comments before then.