

**TOWN OF YARROW POINT
COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES
September 8, 2015
6:08 PM**

The following is a summary of action during the proceedings and is *not* a verbatim transcript.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Dicker Cahill called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

PRESENT:

Mayor: Dicker Cahill

Councilmembers: Steve Bush
Mary Elmore
Andy Valaas
Bruce Jones
Carl Scandella

Staff: Anastasiya Warhol – Clerk-Treasurer
John Joplin – Fiscal Coordinator
Stacia Schroeder – Town Engineer
Mona Green – Town Planner
Wayne Stewart – Town Attorney

Guests: John McGlenn – Park Board Chairman
Stephan Lagerholm – Yarrow Point Resident
Randy Heath – Yarrow Point Resident

REGULAR BUSINESS:

SS 15-17 Morningside Restoration

Park Board Chairman John McGlenn addressed the Council. He explained that in recent years the ivy problem in Morningside Park has gotten significantly worse. Ivy swallows shrubs, grasses, and then proceeds up the trees, eventually smothering and killing them. Thirty years ago there was a large open area down the slope of Morningside Park but gradually the area became infested with ivy. While there have been “popcorn” attempts to restore the area with annual clean-up or planting events, they’ve done little to eradicate the invasive plants. The Park Board is passionate about restoring the area and believes that the first step in preserving this resource is making an investment in eradicating the invasive plants. This comes at a financial cost to the Town nearing 33k over a 3-year period. The Park Board has solicited two proposals for the initial invasive removal and hopes to present them to Council for discussion at the September meeting. The Council consensus was to move forward with the eradication project, emphasizing the need to properly steward and maintain this asset.

Based on this input, the Council agreed to pursue the following options:

- Separate projects from maintenance/stewardship when discussing the budget
- Pursue an updated proposal from EarthCorps requesting an idea of annual maintenance costs post-project.
- Revisit the ratified Trails Master Plan to see identified suggestions and improvements to Morningside Park.
- Add Morningside Restoration as an agenda bill item to the September 28th Council meeting.

SS 15-18 Public Shared Activity Space

Clerk-Treasurer Warhol read into the record the public comments submitted on the subject. In summary, eight responses were in favor of the initiative, one response was not in favor, and one resident requested more data. The Council agreed that one of the main challenges of our time is getting children to play outside. The Clerk explained that in the last three years, no other request has been verbalized more than a request for a play area. Councilmember Elmore pointed out that the Park Board is very supportive of this project and should be included in a sub-committee. The Council raised the following questions:

- What is the current Yarrow Point demographic?
- What should be built?
- How much would it cost? What about maintenance?
- Will the residents supplement the project financially?

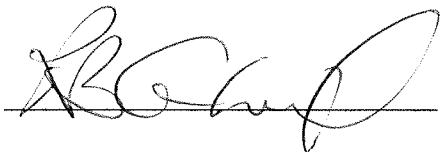
The Council agreed to continue discussing the project. In the meantime, the Mayor agreed to facilitate a sub-committee of interested residents.

ADJOURNMENT:

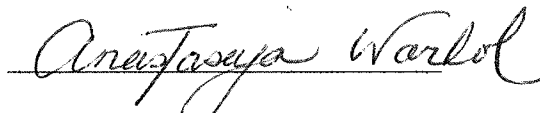
The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:



Dicker Cahill, Mayor



Anastasiya Warhol, Clerk-Treasurer