TOWN OF YARROW POINT
PLANNING COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
March 2, 2020

The following is a condensation of the proceedings and is not a verbatim transcript.

CALL TO ORDER:
Carl Hellings Planning Commission Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

PRESENT:

Chairman:	Carl Hellings
Commissioners:	Trevor Dash
	Chuck Hirsch
	Amy Pellegrini
	Jennifer Whittier
Staff:	Austen Wilcox – Town Deputy Clerk
	Mona Green – Town Planner
Guests:	Lee Sims – Resident
	Tom Peters – Resident
	Debbie Prudden – Resident
	Jon Roskill – Resident

MINUTES:
MOTION: Commissioner Pellegrini moved to approve the minutes of the January 23, 2020 special meeting as presented. Commissioner Dash seconded the motion.
VOTE: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

MOTION: Commissioner Hirsch moved to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2020 special meeting as presented. Commissioner Dash seconded the motion.
VOTE: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES:
No comments.

STAFF REPORTS:
Town Planner Green gave a report of the February Council meeting noting the Planning Commission's presence at the meeting.

Ms. Green referenced an email that was forwarded to the Commission via email of a resident regarding a request to place a flagpole in their property setback area. The Planning Commission reviewed and recommends that the resident bring the issue up with the Town Council. Deputy Clerk Wilcox will forward this information to the resident.

Ms. Green discussed the outcome of a recently granted variance, #19-8042, along on 95th Ave NE by the Town's Hearing Examiner.

Chairman Hellings noted comments submitted by a resident in opposition of a tree code to the Commission.

REGULAR BUSINESS:

PCAB 20-02 Private Property Tree Code – Continued Discussion

Chairman Hellings shared an overview of the Planning Commission's research of a private property tree code. The Commission reviewed their discussion with the Town Council at the February 11, 2020 Town Council meeting. The Council provided direction to the Planning Commission to continue their research on a tree code.

Public comment period opened at 7:29pm

Debbie Prudden resident at 3805 94th Ave NE thanked the Planning Commission for their research and efforts including referenced comments she made at the February 11, 2020 Council meeting. Ms. Prudden stated that there should still be a way for residents to remove trees should there be a private property tree code enacted.

Jon Roskill resident at 9540 NE 42nd Pl referenced a comment made by another resident who had previously invited the Planning Commission to visit their lot to see the natural types of species that he has planted. Mr. Roskill recommends that the Planning Commission visit their property for example purposes.

Ray Sims resident at 9410 NE 40th St asked if the Town has considered the following aspects in a tree code:

- Inventory of trees
- Maintaining branches in ROW maintenance
- Definition of a significant tree
- Unsafe trees
- Hedges vs. trees

Ms. Green responded to Mr. Sims stating that the Town has a public property tree code and an inventory was done in 2017. If there is an issue with a tree in the ROW, contact Town Hall.

Tom Peters resident at 4652 95th Ave NE discussed view protection. Mr. Peters shared that mitigation trees could have adverse effects and diminish property values. He suggested grandfathering in current owners. Having trees spaced out due to replanting requirements is not natural to the environment as significant trees grow together.

Ronni McGlenn resident at 4000 95th Ave NE thanked the Planning Commission for their work researching a tree code.

Public comment period closed at 7:46pm

The Commission discussed the following:

- Mitigation trees including the question of requiring them to be native or allowing ornamentals.
- Public notice for tree removal.

- The expectation of common courtesy on the location of replanting.
- Enforcement procedures.
- Compliance with state laws for species.

The Commission prioritized a list of items to review.

The Commission agreed that they would like an arborist to comment and provide input on these issues.

MOTION: Commissioner Dash moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:24pm. Commissioner Whittier seconded the motion.
VOTE: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

APPROVED:

Carl Hellings, Chairman

ATTEST:

Austen Wilcox, Deputy Clerk

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