

Municipal Memo

ISSUE 47 • MAY 1995

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

CITY COUNCIL MAY 2, 1995

+Held a public hearing on the Morton appeal of the Planning Commission's approval of SUB 94-03. Scanlan Kemper Bard Companies application for tentative plat approval for a 19 lot subdivision known as Chapman Point Subdivision. Morton and some of his Laurel Street neighbors appealed the approval as it related to the alignment and characteristics of proposed Oak Street extension south of 7th Street. The Laurel Street neighbors were concerned that a paved through-street in the subdivision of new homes may attract a significant number of sight-seers. Council voted to tentatively uphold the Planning Commission's decision to approve the subdivision but modified an approval condition relating to the proposed Oak Street extension to require the developer to gravel the road in the areas that adjoin 7th Street and Laurel Street to discourage non-residential traffic in the neighborhood. Council held a special meeting on May 15 to consider the final findings of fact and conditions for the subdivision. Councilors adopted the findings and conditions with one modification; a condition specifying where the interface between gravelled and paved surfaces will occur was modified to permit the city engineers some flexibility in determining the best location for the pavement break from a public safety and maintenance perspective. (A)

+Held a public hearing regarding Oregon Department of Transportation Tourist Oriented Directional (TOD) signs. Council recently met with ODOT representatives to discuss the status of ODOT-placed signage on Hemlock Street now that Hemlock Street has been transferred to city responsibility. Council discussed the signage and decided to direct staff to recommend which signs on Hemlock Street are appropriate to remain in place and to consider re-design of the signs.

+Held a public hearing and established rates for new 34 gallon and 90

gallon garbage container service from Cannon Beach Sanitary.

+Discussed the Blue Ribbon Committee report on future space needs of Cannon Beach and decided to pursue the #1 recommendation of the committee by obtaining cost estimates for geological survey, obtain appraisal and return to Council with preliminary information including usability of existing buildings. The first choice of the Blue Ribbon Committee is to locate the school/arts center and sports park at the RV Park site and leave the IMPACT site as open space.

+Adopted findings of fact and first reading of proposed Ordinance 95-07, establishing off-street parking standards for the downtown C1 zone. The second reading and adoption of the ordinance will be considered at Council's June meeting.

+Adopted Ordinance 95-08, replacing Ordinance 94-11 to provide for accessory dwellings in the R1, R2, R3, RL, RM, RAM and C1 zones and to provide for the dispersal of duplexes in the R2 zone.

+Accepted Councilor Adamson's resignation as Council representative to Clatsop Tillamook Intergovernmental Council (CTIC) and appointed Rainmar Bartl to represent the city on a Coastal Transportation Policy Advisory Committee.

+Adopted a supplemental budget to provide funding for the resurfacing of the city park tennis courts; construction of a base for the bandstand at city park; monitoring at Haystack Rock and hiring a temporary accounting clerk.

+Accepted a recommendation by the Energy Committee to ask the Budget Committee to determine availability of funds to increase Shuttle service from five to seven days per week. Also authorized the Energy Committee to send an informational letter to all users of electricity regarding solar hot water heater opportunities.

+Accepted a property line settlement proposed by Chuck and Carlene Lenard regarding the Pacific Street boundary of the Lenard's property at 1956 Pacific. (B)

+Adopted a resolution forming a local improvement district for the purpose of installing storm drainage in the area of Fernwood Avenue and Pacific Street. (C)

+Adopted a resolution forming a local improvement district for the purpose of installing storm drainage in the area of Fernwood Avenue and Pacific Street. (C)

DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MAY 18

+Held a public hearing on DDAJ application for building and site modifications to existing commercial building, located at 3401 South Hemlock. (D)

+Held a public hearing on Cannon Beach Conference Center application for a major modification to approved plan for a mixed use building located at 163 East Third. (E)

+Continued discussion of Stephanie Inn parking lot landscaping. (F)

Kirk Anderson, Mayor
City Councilors:
Laurel Hood
Clave Rooper
Frank Little
Karolyn Adamson
John Williams, City Manager

Published monthly by the
City of Cannon Beach,
P.O. Box 368 Cannon Beach,
OR 97110 (503) 436-1581

PUBLIC MEETINGS

MAY, 1995
30 CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION, 7 P.M.

JUNE, 1995
6 CITY COUNCIL, 7 P.M.
15 PARKS & COMMUNITY SERVICES, 9 A.M.
15 PUBLIC WORKS CMTE., 4:30 P.M.
15 DESIGN REVIEW, 6:30 P.M.
20 BUDGET ADOPTION, 7 P.M.
21 ENERGY CMTE., 8:30 A.M.
22 PLANNING COMMISSION, 7 P.M.

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

PLANNING COMMISSION APRIL 27

+Held a public hearing on an application by the City of Cannon Beach for Zoning Ordinance text amendments regarding short term rentals. Several changes had been recommended by a committee formed by City Council to review the short term rental ordinances, including a recommendation to extend by three years the period of time in which licensed short term rentals will be allowed to operate. The Planning Commission voted to recommend approval of the amendments to the City Council; a public hearing on the matter will be held at Council's June 6 meeting.

+Held a public hearing on a City of Cannon Beach application for Zoning Ordinance amendments concerning Assisted Living Facilities. The Planning Commission initiated the amendments in response to a request from Mike Morgan, representing the Community Development Corporation (CDC). The CDC is interested in developing an Assisted Living Facility for elderly or disabled persons, where the facility provides certain services such as meals, housekeeping, transportation and personal care. The Planning Commission recommends that City Council approve the addition of Assisted Living Facility as a conditional use in the R3, RAM, RM and C1 zones. Council will hold a public hearing on the matter at the June 6 Council meeting.

+Held a public hearing on a request by Robert and Jo Ann Norrie for two variances in association with a lot line adjustment at 286 Kenai Street. The applicants wish to create a second oceanfront lot in association with their existing house at the west end of Kenai Street in Tolovana Park. At the request of the applicant, the record was held open for the submission of additional evidence and the request will be considered at Planning Commission's May 25 meeting. (G)

+Held a public hearing on a conditional use request by James O'Hanlon to permit selective harvesting of forest lands on a 17.36 acre parcel of land located east of Highway 101 and south of Elk Mountain Road, within the Cannon Beach urban growth boundary. The applicant would remove approximately half the harvestable Sitka Spruce and Western Hemlock trees, with buffers provided adjacent to streams and Highway 101. The conditional use request was approved. (H)

+Continued consideration of TerHar off-street parking variance requests. The public hearing on the matter was held at the January Planning Commission meeting and at the request of the applicant, consideration was postponed until the April meeting. The variances requested by TerHar are in conjunction with the

proposed conversion of the present fire station on Spruce Street to commercial use. The Planning Commission approved off-street parking variances to permit the provision of a total of twelve off-street parking spaces where the current Code requires 22 spaces and to allow the applicant to not provide landscaped planters at the western end of the proposed parking lot. The variance approvals are conditioned upon the City Council approving amendments to the downtown C1 zone parking standards which are presently under consideration. (I)

NEW RECYCLE BINS AT POST OFFICE

New recycle bins with more compartments for sorting have appeared at the post office thanks to the dedicated efforts of the Cannon Beach Energy Committee. The bins will have signs both in Spanish and English indicating which items go into each compartment. Best of all, almost all materials and labor were donated for the project!

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION EVENT SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 1

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Clatsop County and local city governments are sponsoring a collection day for household wastes on Saturday, June 17 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The collection sites are at Cannon Beach City Hall Parking lot at Hemlock and Gower Streets, and the Public Works yard in Seaside between 10th and 12th on Roosevelt.


Residents are encouraged to bring household toxic chemicals to the collection sites where professionals will properly dispose of the wastes. No container larger than five gallons will be accepted nor will explosives, ammonitions or radioactive waste (primarily smoke detectors), biological waste or waste from a business or commercial farm operation. All containers should be tightly sealed, packaged in an upright position and placed in a cardboard box. Labels should be left on all containers, and dry substances, if in a bag or box, should be double bagged to prevent spillage.

For further information, call City Hall at 436-1581.

RECYCLE SCHEDULE
JUNE 1995

CURBSIDE
MON. Collection 12th & 26th
TUES. Collection 13th & 27th
WED. Collection 14th & 28th
FRI. Collection 9th & 23rd

RECYCLE SATURDAY
9 a.m.-1 p.m. 3rd & 17th



CANNON BEACH BOOK COMPANY
P.O. Box 634
132 North Hemlock
Cannon Beach, 436-1301



436-9356
Cannon Beach, OR

"Top-drawer eats"
...The Oregonian

Absolutely delicious homemade soups and sandwiches.
Freshly baked desserts and Torrefazione Italia Coffee.

Willapa Bay spartina spraying opponents call for gubernatorial veto

"What is a weed? A plant whose virtues have not yet been discovered." —Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Spartina issue is complex, as most environmental issues are, such as salmon, seals and spotted owls. There are overlapping jurisdictions, corporate agendas, public health concerns and often a long history of abusive practices or poor management. Fortunately, there is a positive trend emerging which broadens management approaches from single species to an ecosystem perspective.

Spartina has been growing and spreading throughout the upper tidelands of Willapa Bay for the past 100 years, since it was apparently introduced accidentally when used as packing material for rail shipment of Eastern oyster seed from the Chesapeake. In 1946 it was transplanted from Willapa to Padilla Bay by a gun club to improve duck hunting, subsequently spreading to other parts of Puget Sound. Spartina has been transplanted also to San Diego Bay, estuaries in New Zealand and several Chinese coastal areas, mainly for erosion control, shoreline stabilization and sediment collection. On the East Coast, where spartina is the dominant salt marsh vegetation from Nova Scotia to Mexico, it is highly valued for wildlife habitat, shoreline protection, foundation for the detritus-based food chain, bio-filter for contaminants and excess nutrients carried by stormwater runoff, animal fodder, fiber source for papermaking and a major contributor to water quality so essential for shellfish production. Chinese researchers have demonstrated its value as feed pellets in fish farms, as a natural source of minerals for dairy animals that boosts milk production 20%, and as a booster for the human immune system, specifically beneficial for kidney and urinary tract infections.

So what's the problem? Spartina is clearly a net benefit in Willapa Bay as water quality is famously excellent, oyster reproduction is consistently good, and eroding shorelines have been stabilized. But the large oyster growers rely on pesticide control of burrowing shrimp (using carbaryl, or Sevin, made by Union Carbide) to maintain firm ground necessary for monocropping bottom culture. There is mounting pressure to cease shrimp spraying, without which the large companies claim they could not remain in business.

An important aspect of the struggle to obtain permits for spartina spraying, therefore, is an effort to protect the farmers' right to use pesticides, especially shrimp spray. Evidence exposing this hidden motivation is the political alliance oystermen formed with cranberry growers, tree farmers and other upland farmers. Locally, this coalition is known as the Willapa Alliance, funded by the Nature Conservancy and Eco-Trust.

The herbicide proposed for spartina control is glyphosate, made by Monsanto and sold as Rodeo and Round-Up. Monsanto's motivation is not hard to figure. Spartina has spread or been introduced to estuaries world-wide, offering a huge potential market if glyphosate is permitted for use in Willapa Bay. Monsanto's well-financed promotional campaign has exaggerated the invasive character of spartina, describing it completely out of context as a noxious weed.

Spartina can spread quickly when conditions are favorable, much as fireweed re-vegetates a clear-cut. As clumps of spartina trap silt, the elevation of the tide flats is raised, allowing the grass to creep outward creating large meadows along the shore. Eventually, spartina fills its niche on the upper tidelands, reaching a dynamic balance determined by predation (for example, by insects and geese), currents and wave action, sediment loads and nutrient availability. Spartina may be considered a symptom of abusive activities in a watershed: too much mud from clear-cut logging, road construction, and oyster dredging; too many nutrients from agricultural run-off, sewage outfalls and leaky septic systems. An ounce of prevention is worth thousands of gallons of herbicide, but it's hard to sell prevention, and herbicide is highly profitable (\$125 a gallon). Treating symptoms with a short-term chemical fix is the culturally sanctioned approach to complex problems. Monsanto becomes the beneficiary as a consequence of society's limited attention span. Long-term consequences for human health and ecosystem balance are obscured by scare propaganda that creates demands for immediate and drastic action.

The Ad Hoc Coalition for Willapa Bay is a group of concerned citizens and small organic oyster farmers committed to a policy of no aquatic pesticides. We

have been fortunate to have the political and legal support of the Shoalwater Indian Tribe and Friends of the Earth. We have successfully blocked herbicide use the past five years, arguing that spraying is unnecessary and unwise. We have demonstrated safe and effective spartina control by hand-pulling seedlings and mowing large clumps. Harvesting and marketing various spartina products has paid for the control efforts, disproving the argument that spraying is cheaper.

In spite of serious questions about long-term impacts raised by an Environmental Impact Statement, permits for glyphosate use were issued in April, 1994. Appeals were filed by the three opposing groups, effectively stopping spraying last year. A joint hearing of the appeals was scheduled for December 1994 before the Washington State Pollution Control Board and the State Shoreline Hearings Board. The Nature Conservancy provided legal defense of the spray permits, but the strength of public support and our arguments against widespread aquatic herbicide use resulted in a settlement agreement, so no hearing was held. Basically, the settlement was a compromise for both sides: limited spraying with careful monitoring for impacts was agreed to, in exchange for a redefinition of Integrated Pest Management where chemical control is the least preferred method.

Unfortunately, the settlement is unacceptable to the Willapa Alliance, Nature Conservancy and Monsanto. Our district's state senator, Sid Snyder, was persuaded to introduce emergency legislation which nullifies the settlement, eliminates most permit requirements and appropriates \$1.5 million for glyphosate use. Of course, no monitoring is required.

A letter campaign is underway encouraging Gov. Lowry to veto the bill, allowing the negotiated settlement to remain in place. If the bill becomes law, there is one remaining option: an appeal of the Department of Ecology's Short-Term Water Quality Modification. Public support is needed at this critical time. Letters to the governor urging a veto are suggested. Financial contributions for legal expenses are also welcome. Thanks for any help you can provide.

LARRY WARNBERG
Ad Hoc Coalition for Willapa Bay

OYSTER ROAST & SPARTINA BAZAAR

Help make Willapa Bay a Chemical Free Zone!

June 11, 2-6 pm
Moby Dick Hotel
Sandridge Road, Nahcotta WA

SPEAKERS:
Michael Gendler, Atty, Ad hoc Committee for Willapa Bay
David Ortman, Friends of the Earth
Jennifer Hagans, Shoalwater Indian Tribe

Donation \$25
to defray legal expenses of ad hoc coalition.
Food, Music, Harvesting Demonstration, Product and Art Display.
A Good Time with Good People!
No Host Bar.

For Information or R.S.V.P.
(360) 665-4543
Fax (360) 665-6887
P.O. Box 82, Nahcotta, WA 98637



Northwest Best Places
Award of Excellence
The Wine Spectator

1287 S. Hemlock
P.O. Box 45
Cannon Beach, OR 97110
(503) 436-1179



CANNON BEACH LEATHER
239 N Hemlock
503-436-0208
SANDRA L. WARD

I am looking for a lot of men who have an infinite capacity to not know what can't be done.
Henry Ford

Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.
Thomas Edison

(503) 436-2832



239 N. HEMLOCK • P.O. BOX 905
CANNON BEACH, OR 97110

UPPER LEFT EDGE JUNE 1995 3