



*Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board
Minutes*

July 11, 2019

Park Operations

2529 High Country Court, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Item 1: Meeting called to order by Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Member, Kamie Long. Vince Urbina, accepted and Mollie Higginbotham Seconded at 8:03 AM.

Board Members Present: Kamie Long
 Mollie Higginbotham
 Susan Carter
 Paul Morency
 Tom Ziola
 Vince Urbina
 Justin Drissel

Absent Board Members:

Additional Present: Connor-CSU Intern
Parks & Recreation Staff: Rob Davis, City Forester & Open Space Supervisor
 Jason Martinez, Weed Abatement Program

Item 2: Approved Minutes for June, Kamie made motion to accept, Vince accepted, Mollie 2nd.

Item 3: Began with Forestry update.

Item 4: Forestry Update

- Review of Rotary Club plantings. Tree inventory discussion.
- Canyon View irrigation issue, water was suspended, but trees in overall good condition.

- Rotary Club appears to have been pleased with the process.
- Rob Davis met with City Engineer to discuss tree protection at Riverside Park.
- Some adjustments were made to the park plans (i.e. basketball court moved).
- Tree protection fencing will be installed. Fines may be assessed if trees are damaged.
- Irrigation is a concern for the Riverside Park project.
- Riverside Park project begins week of 7/15.
- Discussion of an opportunity for the Forestry Board to discuss code requirements with the City Planning Department.
- There have been key changes at the Planning Department, thus it might be a good time to reach out.
- Federal laws give utility companies authorization for utilities to be placed in a right of way. However, companies can't abate the entire area.
- Numerous utility companies have franchise agreements. Connecting and communication with utility companies is a key.
- Xcel Energy does have grants and programs established for tree replacement.
- Possible opportunities for Forestry Board members to visit projects when city employees are unavailable.
- Plans to discuss elm seed bugs during the next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting. Rob Davis developed an elm seed bug fact sheet for Parks and Recreation leadership.
- City Comprehensive Plan being developed. Opportunity to get forestry items included in the plan.
- Public meeting to discuss the City's Comprehensive Plan will take place at the Avalon Theater on July 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM.
- Meeting scheduled for July 11, 2019 to discuss sycamore trunk injections.
- Aerial rescue class at Lincoln Park scheduled for August. The City of Grand Junction is hosting and will receive two class spots.
- Ideal time to order trees for Arbor Fest is in the fall.
- The City of Cheyenne introduced a successful program where bare root trees were grown in a gravel bed.
- Discussion of opportunities for the city to generate revenue for the replacement/establishment of trees. The City of Madison introduced a fee on each utility bill.
- Rob Davis could use assistance on grant request follow up.

Item 5: New Business

- Saluting Branches event September 18th. Removal of trees planned. Maintenance of trees planted next year. Volunteer sign up available online.
- September 6th is the date for the Western Forestry Conference at the CSU Extension.

Item 6: Adjourn

Kamie Long made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 am.

The next Forestry Board meeting will be held on August 1, 2019 at 8:00 am at Parks Operations Building.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Jason Martinez