



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

*November 5, 2020
held Virtually*

Meeting called to Order by Susan Carter, at 8:38 AM.

Roll Call

Board Members Present: Susan Carter
Kamie Long
Vince Urbina
Tom Ziola

Absent Board Members: Mollie Higginbotham
Paul Morency
Bennett Boeschstein

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Davis, City Forester & Open Space Supervisor
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

Approve Minutes for October 1 Forestry Advisory Board Meeting

Vince Urbina made a motion to approve the minutes.

The motion was seconded by Tom Ziola and approved unanimously.

Forestry Updates

a) 10.25.20 snowstorm;

- Brian, Cody, Rob, and Randy cleared streets from 6pm – 10:30pm Sunday Night.
- There was an onslaught of calls the following week.
- Elms seemed to be the worst followed by mulberry and pears.
- The City Manager allocated \$100,000 to help with the response. Contracted with Alpine Tree Service, T4, and Monkey Business to assist with grapple work, chipping, and other storm response.
- Tracking all the addresses in a Google Map with fields to allow data entry for other information (hangers, grapple work, chipper ready) and completion date.
- Finding it difficult to draw the line between city-owned and public trees; in many neighborhoods the neighbors would just pile all the branches in one or two spots. As a result there has also been a lot of private (even backyard) tree limbs cleaned up.
- Grapple loads are being taken to the compost site at Mesa county; chip loads are being dropped outside the Parks yard.

b) Fire Station #6 Landscaping - planting 16 b&b trees.

c) Aquaponics Plantings

- Planting in groups around Sherwood park.
 - Once the trees are pulled out of the bed, the hydroton shakes out pretty well.
 - Vince Urbina suggested Rob present on his experience growing and planting the aquaponics trees.
- d) Holiday Lights
- DDA provided money for renting lifts; Jamie Boda has been coordinating the installation
 - Storm response created an opportunity for other staff to be involved in the installation
- e) Tiara Rado Open Space
- Project funded through CARES Act for \$50,000 to be spent by the end of the year.
 - Planning on some trail building and parking lot delineation.
- f) Winter Tree Removals
- 250 trees flagged for removal
- g) Contractor Licensing
- Discussion around 2021 and exemptions or denials
 - i. What if a person takes but fails the test? Can we provide an extension if they show a plan to retake the test?
 - ii. Currently Licensed company doesn't meet the ISA experience requirements
 - iii. How do we address hiring an ISA Arborist as a consultant?
 1. How do follow up on that
 2. What proof do they provide that they were present on the job
 - Board members indicated a general comfort level with instituting a grace period and adding language that indicated companies could submit an appeal to the Board to have their specific situation considered.
 - i. Firm but Fair review process including evaluating work via field inspection
 - Board members elected to meet as a sub-committee to further consider specific policies and guidelines for proceeding with 2021 licensing and will report at the December meeting.

New Business

- a) Kamie Long advised the board that Dana Coelho had been chosen a Vince's replacement at the Colorado State Forest Service. She will be located in the Broomfield Office.
- b) Susan Carter shared with the Board that the CSU Extension plant sale was successful in light of the Covid accommodations.
- c) Rob plans to plant in the Aquaponics bed again utilizing some of the lessons learned from this year's crop.

Public Comments: No Public Comments

Item 6: Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by acclimation at 10:04 a.m.

Next Forestry Advisory Board Meeting: Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 8:30am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist