



## *Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes*

*October 1, 2020  
held at Sherwood Park*

**Meeting called to Order** by Susan Carter, at 8:40 AM.

### Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Susan Carter  
Bennett Boeschstein  
Mollie Higginbotham  
Paul Morency  
Vince Urbina  
Tom Ziola

Absent Board Members:

Kamie Long

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Rob Davis, City Forester & Open Space Supervisor  
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

### **Approve Minutes** for September 3 Forestry Advisory Board Meeting

Paul Morency made a motion to approve the minutes.

The motion was seconded by Vince Urbina and approved unanimously.

### **Forestry Updates**

- a) Fall Tree Planting has begun with 60 container trees, and 60 aquaponics trees.
  - Planting 20 balled and burlap trees at Fire Station #6
  - Weeping crabapple (vandalized memorial tree) to replace in Lincoln Park.
  - Rob would prefer the aquaponics tree be dormant before they are pulled out of beds.
    - i. Looking at planting aquaponics trees in groups so they can be closely monitored
  - 8 trees planted at Crown Point Cemetery
- b) Holiday Lights – quickly approaching
  - DDA would prefer to expand this year, but that's a tough ask this year
- c) Inventory – dedicated intern working on adding trees to the system this year
  - 2020 - 1765 trees inventoried
  - 2019 – (no intern) 274 trees inventoried

- d) Inspections – also added to the system by the intern
  - 2020 – 2798 (some existing trees were inspected, hence the difference between inventoried and inspected trees)
  - 2019 – (no intern) 203 trees inspected
- e) Tree Trimming Work Orders
  - Completed for the year due to other projects taking priority (planting, installation of Christmas lights and tree removals) Completed work requests made up to May 2020
- f) Ash Treatments
  - Working on a systematic ash injection plan. Many of the City ash that are lost are heavily impacted by bark beetle.
    - i. 250 trees that are greater than 24"
    - ii. 3 year rotation to treat all the trees
- g) 205 Tree Removals scheduled for this Winter
- h) Fire Station #6 Landscaping
  - Located in Horizon Park
  - Parks Department is designing and installing the irrigation and 70 b and b trees
    - i. 60 % are Austrian Pine to screen the neighbors (standard practice for fire stations in residential neighborhoods)
    - ii. Other plant diversity addressed by Parks staff.
- i) Contractor Licensing
  - 11 companies with no licensed arborist on staff
    - i. Board will discuss specific guidelines around the certified arborist requirement, what an extension might mean (in light of the two cancelled local exams) and an expiration for an extension. It was noted that the licensing requirement has been advertised for 3 years.

### **New Business**

- a) Discussion about community education around long-term value and return on investment for trees as well as the care trees require and why city trees died and were removed.
- b) The Urban Trails committee put out a survey which included a question about how shade impacts route. 60% respondents strongly prefer shaded routes
- c) The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Master Plan Survey closes October 2.
- d) The intersection of G Road and 24 Road (currently a stop light) is being replaced with a roundabout and underground pedestrian crossway. A small number of trees at the edge of Canyon View Park (6" ash) will be lost (and replaced).
- e) CSU Extension plant sale is October 10. To accommodate social distancing people have registered for their shopping time and all plants will be priced instead of auctioned. Earlier times were charged VIP admission.
- f) CSU is offering Commercial Gardener Certification (similar to Master Gardener with no volunteer hour requirements)
- g) Tom Ziola suggested using the Beacon and, perhaps, Spoke and Blossom as a way to get the Heritage Tree stories in the eyes of the public.

Item 5: Public Comments: No Public Comments

Item 6: Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by acclimation at 9:59 a.m.

Item 7. Next Forestry Advisory Board Meeting: Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 8:30am. Suggested locations include the Las Colonias Amphitheater or Hospitality Suite (weather dependent).

Respectfully Submitted,

Allison Little  
Administrative Specialist