



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

*May 6, 2021
held Sherwood Park*

Meeting called to Order by Susan Carter, at 8:37 AM.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

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

Absent Board Members:

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Davis, City Forester & Open Space Supervisor
Jason Martinez, Weed Abatement Program

Approve Minutes for April 7 Forestry Advisory Board Meeting.

Paul Morency made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 7 meeting. Kamie Long, seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Forestry Updates

Staff Updates

- 30 candidates applied for the arborist positions. Around 15 candidates came in for a written and pruning test. The highest score achieved was a 71%. Some candidates scored in the 60% range and some on the lower end in the 30%-40% range. A section of the test asked candidates to identify ten of the most common trees found in the area. Not a lot of strong showings by candidates on the test. Eight candidates were asked to participate in a pruning test based on their written test score. Some candidates moved forward in the process at the conclusion of the pruning test. One additional candidate will be in to discuss opportunities.

Forestry Department Updates

- Planet GEO Canopy software almost done. Software shows the increase in canopy cover. Only one census block showed a decrease in canopy cover resulting from building. The software will

allow the City to demonstrate the dollar value of canopy cover. Software will allow user to see cover in layers, (e.g. schools, airport, single family home, etc.).

- Discussion about updating the development code.

New Business:

- Grand Valley Canopy is exploring a working session. Susan may distribute a poll to help identify a date for the session.
- CSU Tri River Extension Demo Days will be moved to August this year. Green companies, master gardeners, and eco staff will give demonstrations. A requirement to participate is one demonstration must be completed.
- Topic of conducting a “tree school” was proposed. How to get people interested in trees was discussed. ISA test preparation session may be well received. Discussion about once again hosting a city tree workshop and the possibility of offering continuing education.
- Tom Ziola discussed tree service providers adopting a park to provide tree care in a park. Possibility of a sign being placed in the park identifying the tree service that is caring for the park trees.

Public Comments: No Public Comments

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by acclimation at 10:00 AM.

Next Forestry Advisory Board Meeting: Wednesday, June 9, 2021 at 8:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Martinez, Weed Abatement Program