



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

*April 7, 2021
held Virtually*

Meeting called to Order by Susan Carter, at 8:30 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 March 11 Forestry Advisory Board Meeting.

Paul Morency made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 11 meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Forestry Updates

Staff Updates

- James and Cody accepted other positions in the Parks Department. Dan's position was frozen. Three positions vacant, 26 applicants.

Forestry Department Updates

- 350 trees will be arriving as city nursery stock. 400 seedlings for resident seedling delivery.
- Colorado Mesa University students have engaged in testing the aquaponics system. There is an interest in testing again after year end.
- Winter tree removal – estimated 30 trees remaining.

New Business:

City Arbor Day

- Proclamation to be made recognizing the city's observance of Arbor Day on April 24.

- Proclamation ceremony at City Council meeting scheduled for April 21st at 5:30 pm. Forestry Board members are invited to attend. Rob Davis will plan to attend.
- Seedling distribution will take place again this year.
- City marketing will tape videos outlining the seedling distribution program.
- 200 properties to receive seedlings is the goal.
- Jason Martinez will coordinate seedling distribution. Volunteers will be asked to assist with delivery.
- Social media videos – During the week of Arbor Day, City social media accounts will feature a new tree related video each weekday. Tom Ziola will record a video on benefits of hiring a tree service.
- School tree plantings – Two schools will participate (Chipeta Elementary/East Middle School).
- Xcel Energy Foundation grant request submitted for city core tree plantings. Plan to engage volunteers for plantings. May need to seek plantings by city employees if Xcel employees do not reach out to volunteer.

Licensed Tree Services

- Success with Board decision to move to licensing providers.

Sawmill

- Currently operational
- Milling wood – Natural log bridges cut for Kindred Reserve Open Space.

Public Comments: No Public Comments

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by acclimation at 9:13 AM.

Next Forestry Advisory Board Meeting: Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 8:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jason Martinez, Weed Abatement Program