

Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

April 11, 2024

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Bill Cooper

Mollie Freilicher Mollie Higginbotham Brandon Kanwischer

Dan Komlo Kamie Long

Board Members Absent: Joseph Chandler

Cody Kennedy

City Staff Present: Jamie Beard, Assistant City Attorney

Rob Davis, Parks Supervisor, Forestry and Open Space

Allison Little Administrative Specialist

Meeting called to order by Kamie Long at 1:00PM.

Approval of the March Minutes

Kamie Long noted that Rob Davis made contact with the Sustainability Committee. Bill Cooper made a motion that the minutes be approved with the changes. The motion was seconded by Kamie and carried unanimously.

Chapter 8 Review

Jamie Beard talked with the board about the ongoing revision of Chapter 8, particularly around definitions. Jamie has changed "City-owned" to public, noting that the trees really are owned by the public and cared for by the City on behalf of the public. She also provided a working definition of owner/occupant.

The board also talked about defining maintenance. The board wondered about defining City maintenance responsibilities and owner/occupant responsibilities. Jamie provided examples from the City of Denver as well as the maintenance definitions from the landscape and development code that was recently adopted.

Jamie talked with the board about open records requirements. Mollie Freilicher made a motion that all documents, emails, and conversation be considered work product and held among the board (not shared), until it is ready to be released as a draft. The motion was seconded by Bill Cooper and Carried unanimously.

Arbor Day Planning

The board talked about seeding delivery. The form opens on April 19, and, following the administrative tasks of dividing out residents from non-residents, assigning seedlings, and route creation, the seedlings will be ready to be matched to routes on Wednesday, April 24 and delivered by the end of the week.

Rob talked with the board about the Arbor Day Event plan. The Arbor Day activities take place from 9am – 2:30pm. Staff will start set up around 7:30am, and board volunteers are asked to show up before 8:30a.m. Rob noted that the staff number is down by 2 arborists, so volunteers will be really helpful at this event. Board members volunteered to help with seedlings, answering questions, staffing the kid's tree climbing, and silent auction areas.

Education Committee Updates

Due to time constraints the board decided further discussion of the tri-fold would happen at the committee meeting.

Other Items to Discuss

Rob noted that he would be out of town on May 2. The next regular Forestry Board meeting will be rescheduled to May 9 from 8am – 9:30am.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted, Ali Little Administrative Specialist.