



## *Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes*

*July 8, 2024*

### Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Joseph Chandler  
Mollie Freilicher  
Mollie Higginbotham  
Dan Komlo  
Kamie Long

Board Members Absent:

Bill Cooper  
Brandon Kanwischer  
Scott Beilfuss

Guests Present:

Tanya Travis

City Staff Present:

Rob Davis, Parks Supervisor, Forestry and Open Space  
Allison Little Administrative Specialist

**Meeting called to order by Kamie Long at 8:30AM.**

### **Approval of the June Minutes**

Mollie Higginbotham made a motion to approve the minutes of the June meeting. The motion was seconded by Dan Komlo and accepted by acclamation.

### **Public Comments**

#### **New Business**

##### **Jamie Beard – Review of Chapter 8**

Jamie is unable to attend today, so this item is tabled until August.

##### **Farmer's Market Planning**

Kamie reminded the board that Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup> at 3pm is the grant committee meeting, Monday the 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 is the education sub-committee meeting to discuss Codes/Rules/Regulations as supplemental documentation for Chapter 8. The first Farmer's Market is also on Thursday the 11<sup>th</sup>. Board members talked about items to have present at the Farmer's market table (tent, tables, tree tag, heat gun, heat island information, handouts, etc).

##### **Request to remove mulberry 630 N 17<sup>th</sup> Street**

Board members discussed the request to remove a fruited mulberry on 17<sup>th</sup> street. Rob Davis advised the board the normal standard is to refuse removal of healthy street trees, however a fruited street tree over hardscape (sidewalk) is not normally installed as a street tree. Rob Davis asked the board for input on the removal request. Board members agree that removing a tree that is dropping significant amounts of fruit on the sidewalk, which is tough to remove and keep clear, could be appropriate. Board members suggested removal with mandatory replacement would be appropriate in this situation

especially given the long fruiting season for mulberries. Kamie Long made a motion the board approve removal of the mulberry with replacement of a more appropriate species. The motion was seconded by Mollie Higgenbotham and carried unanimously.

### **SWAF Final After Event Review**

The board reviewed notes of the 2024 SWAF event. Board members would like to improve the silent auction system so that people can't commandeer the clipboards to prevent other people from bidding at the end of the time. Board members suggested collecting clip boards before the end of the auction so that they have to physically tell a person their bid, or highest bid cards which could be submitted before the end of the auction, or adding a higher 'buy it now' price, similar to the reclaimed wood. The price tags generated a lot of conversation, the tree walk was very well attended, and the climbing was super popular with the kids (more waivers needed). Board members discussed seedling delivery and the merits of continuing the delivery program versus mass distribution at SWAF. Could we survey seedling recipients mid-year this year and collect information about if the seedling was planted, if they would be willing to help deliver, what species are doing the best, etc. Kamie Long will work with Sarah Kennedy to formulate and send out the survey to past recipients. The Board wondered about exploring Arbor Activity sponsors, similar to how the afternoon activities are sponsored.

### **IRA Grant Meeting**

Received feedback that outreach items can include paper products (paper plates, cutlery, etc), but not food. The next meeting is Thursday.

### **Forestry Updates**

Rob shared Forestry Updates, the crew is keeping up with pruning requests (within a week on average). The City Manager granted forestry some supplemental funding for ash dieback mitigation. Rob is working on getting a contractor program out to bid. These funds will generally target the ash with dieback which are too small to treat, and dying, but not (under normal circumstances) dead enough to remove.

Staff are moving toward injecting junipers. The longhorn beetle seems to be impacting these trees significantly. It appears that bark beetle makes these trees more susceptible to the much more damaging longhorn beetle which comes in and kills off the tree.

**Adjourn by acclamation at 10:12am.**

**Next Meeting – August 1, 8:30am**

Respectfully submitted,  
Ali Little  
Administrative Specialist