



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

September 6, 2013

Parks Operations Building

2529 High Country Ct, Grand Junction, CO 81501

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Member, Kamie Long at 8:05 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Kamie Long
Shirley Nilsen
Richard Edwards
Charles Thompson

Board Members Absent:

Teddy Hildebrandt

Council Member:

Marty Chazen

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Tom Ziola, Forestry Supervisor
Darcy Austin, Leisure Service Representative

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Richard Edwards moved to approve the August 9, 2013 Forestry Board Minutes. Charles Thompson seconded the motion to approve.

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Item 3: Bruce Rahn – Reclassifying Elm Tree's

Bruce Rahn was not present for the meeting but wanted to discuss having Elm's listed as "invasive species". Tom thought the Forestry Board was a good place for him to be heard. The Board would still like to speak with him.

Richard Edwards moved to have Bruce Rahn attend the next Board Meeting on October 11, 2013. Kamie Long seconded the motion to approve.

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Item 4: Licensing

Tom Ziola spoke with Jamie Beard at legal regarding the request to add “tree’s” to Class “C” and was told that this isn’t something that needs to go before Council. This is a decision we can make as the Forestry Board. Marty Chazen asked if he was to take a branch out of a tree in his property would that cause issues. Tom Ziola stated that isn’t an issue, the issue is with people who are “for hire”, they need to be insured and licensed or they could be putting the homeowner at risk. To be licensed you have to do a practical and show that you know the proper technique, ex: show 3 point cut. Class “C” tree pruning is for “on the ground pruning only”. You must have a Class “A” license to prune “off the ground”. Richard Edwards stated he would update the licensing test and Tom Ziola stated we would get study guides available, 2 English and 1 Spanish and also get updated test for Class “C” in Spanish.

Richard Edwards moved to add pruning trees from the ground to the licensing test. Kamie Long seconded the motion to approve.

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Richard Edwards moved to add “Tree’s” and “On the ground” to Classification “C”. Charles Thompson seconded the motion to approve.

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Workman’s compensation should be added to Chapter 5 as part of licensing requirements. Employer & employees should be covered by workman’s compensation. Kamie Long stated that owner’s with no employees sign a waiver but should they still have workman’s compensation to protect the homeowner. Tom Ziola stated that per legal the waiver would protect the homeowner. Will get with Sam Rainguet regarding adding information about the changes to the Class “C” licensing to the “Glad You Asked” portion of the City of Grand Junction website, so the community has a better understanding about what having a “license” means. We could also try to get a flyer out with the Grand Junction Utility bills.

Item 5: Ordinances

Kamie Long asked if we could table this until our October meeting as she hasn’t had a chance to go through them and since Teddy Hildebrandt wasn’t able to attend today. Tom Ziola just mentioned that there is nothing in the ordinance about standard procedures and he would like to add ANS procedures to the ordinance.

Item 6: Yard of the Month

Richard Edwards noticed that the Grand Junction Sentinel is listing a set of judging standards that we don't use; we set our own judging standards. So when Kamie Long does her write up she will update the Sentinel on our judging qualifications. The winner is Earl & Floy Young at 2303 N. 1st Street. They have lived in the home for 45 years and are enjoyed by the community for many reasons and sell sweet cherries. Kamie and Tom will go on Monday to take a picture and let the Young's know that they won. Charles Thompson will do the judging for the last Yard of the Month.

Item 7: New Business

Per Kamie Long, Nick Meyer sent out an email that there won't be a "Master Gardener" program in 2014, it's still functional but won't be training any "Master Gardeners" next year. They will hire someone to fill the position next March.

Kamie Long mentioned she had heard there is stiff competition for the Gold Leaf Award and since we won last year for "Beautification of Landscaping" we may not win it for "Arbor Day" this year.

Still looking for a new member to join the Forestry Board, talk to Stephanie Tuin and see what we can do about getting the word out there more.

We have 340 kids coming from the Church of Latter Day Saints to volunteer. 60 -80 will help out at the cemetery and the rest will be at Canyon View picking weeds and picking up trash. They are all between 14 – 18 years old for an hour and a half.

Next Thursday Tom Ziola is doing a presentation at R5 High School and will take volunteers to Main Street to pick up cigarette butts because we don't have the staff to do it and it has gotten out of control.

Next Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. Tom Ziola has a meeting with a Historical Board regarding the restorations of the Crawford Tomb, most likely it will be done with grant dollars.

The turf was eliminated at the 5th Street Overpass, off Riverside Parkway.

Between Grand & White, on the southwest corner it seems the irrigation water has been turned off and there are a couple Sycamore trees that are suffering. Tom Ziola said he would go take a look.

Item 8: Adjourn

Richard Edwards motioned to adjourn the meeting. Chuck Thompson seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 4 No 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy Austin