



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

June 5, 2025

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Joseph Chandler
Bill Cooper
Mollie Freilicher
Kamie Long
Tanya Travis

Board Members Absent:

Robert Ballard
Dan Komlo
Earl Perry

City Staff Present:

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

Meeting called to order by Kamie Long at 8:36 AM.

Approval of the Minutes

Due to a technical error, the approval of the minutes is tabled until July.

Public Comments – Tom Ziola – Licensed Contractor Day of Service

Tom Ziola talked with the board about Sherwood Park. In 1994 he was part of a program where the Rotary Club planted 75 trees in honor of their 75th anniversary. He notices that most of those trees have been raised for mowing, but not pruned. He suggests a “day of service” by the licensed tree care providers to perform some pro bono pruning in the park as an opportunity for tree care providers to give back. He suggests the off-season because that time is slower for most of the companies. Tom offers to coordinate this effort, and knows many of the neighbors of the park who might also volunteer.

Board members wondered if these were trees on our radar. Staff lean towards other areas, such as the cemetery where staff have concentrated a lot of effort this year. Rob thinks one of the bigger lifts will be coordinating the tree care services and getting them to show up for free. Rob always wants to ensure that the quality of work meets the department’s standard. There is the risk of companies sending their newest arborist whose quality of work is not up to the standards of the department.

Rob wonders what time of year would be best. Tom suggests late winter, early spring, perhaps February. The board recognizes this as an opportunity to get the companies together, build relationships, and have the board support these efforts. Mollie Freilicher shared that on the east coast a practice like this is very common. The Parks and Recreation Director has expressed concern about an event of this nature turning into a bunch of advertising for private companies in the park. Tom will do some fact finding with the licensed tree care companies and come back to the board with more information.

Officer Nominations

Tanya Travis nominated Kamie Long for chair. Bill Cooper is also nominated for Chair. Kamie Long nominates Mollie Freilicher for vice chair, Bill Cooper nominates Dan Komlo for vice chair. Voting will be conducted via email to Rob Davis.

July Meeting Date

Due to the Fourth of July holiday, the July meeting is rescheduled to Friday, July 11 at 8:30am.

Subcommittee Meeting

The committee will talk over items for Market on Main and will meet on Friday 6/27 at 8:30am.

Arbor Day Metrics

This year's program raised \$11,680 through sponsorships and silent auctions helping to offset the \$11,822 cost for seedlings and silent auction trees. The urban wood had an average sale price of \$43, with 42% of sales generated from the buy it now price. The tree auction had an average sale price of \$87, with a high selling tree at \$225 and a low selling tree at \$25. The median sale price was \$75. The highest priced trees were magnolias and the lowest was a zelkova.

Market on Main

Board members wondered about resources that could be available, even electronic, for the table. They suggested highlighting the Main Street Arboretum at the table with a QR code and a map.

Contractor Planting Training and Flyer – Tabled

Chapter 8 Subcommittee – Tabled

Rob shared that a final draft from City Attorney's office should be available soon. The next topic to tackle would be the Forestry Regulations which are not part of the code but would still be adopted by Council. Rules and regulations cover how the standards apply, what does licensing mean, and line out standards for safety, pruning, removal, tree protection, best management practices, etc.

Forestry Updates

Rob shared that the Cedar Court tree has been removed. Staff are entering pruning season. Rob also advised the board that the Library program highlighting the State of Trees in the City, scheduled for May 31 will be rescheduled.

New Business

Board members wondered about updates on IRA funding. IRA money is available at least through the end of September when the Federal fiscal year ends.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 9:59am

Next Meeting – July 11, 8:30 am

Respectfully submitted,
Ali Little, Administrative Specialist