



## *Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes*

*September 4, 2025*

### Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Joseph Chandler  
Bill Cooper  
Mollie Freilicher  
Kamie Long  
Earl Perry  
Tanya Travis  
Robert Ballard

Board Members Absent:

Dan Komlo - absent

Guests Present:

Debra Foster

City Staff Present:

Jamie Beard, Assistant City Attorney  
Rob Davis, Parks Supervisor, Forestry and Open Space  
Sarah, Kennedy, Communications Specialist  
Allison Little Administrative Specialist

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

Joseph Chandler made a motion to approve the minutes of the August meeting. The motion was seconded by Tanya Travis and the minutes were accepted by acclamation.

### **Public Comments**

Debra Foster is a volunteer horticulturist at the Botanic Gardens and is submitting an application for the Board and came to sit in on a meeting.

### **Market on Main**

Forestry Board members really appreciate the staff help with the set up, as many of them are coming straight from field activities and arrive right when the market begins. Folks continue to be interested in the All Star Tree List and the Licensed Arborist list.

### **IRA Grant Update**

The contractor is finishing up the last right of way irrigation system installation. Staff have tagged trees for all the spaces so that trees can be put in with the new systems and watered in well before systems are blown out. All the properties are in the core downtown area, with planting strips which have experienced canopy loss. All properties will get an email with a link to a video about how operate the irrigation clock and reminders to blow out the system in the fall and have the backflow inspected in the spring.

## **Forestry Regulations – tabled**

### **Day of Service**

There are 21 people coming from a mix of licensed tree contractors dedicating a day to doing free work on park trees. The Market on Main table will be set up as an info booth so that questions generated by the activity in the park can be directed to a specific location (instead of interrupting the work). Contractors seem appreciative of the opportunity to collaborate with other contractors.

### **Chapter 8**

Jamie reviewed other municipal code and discovered that more folks required citizens to maintain all trees, ROW and alleys included, some requiring a permit from the P&R Director or the City Forester. At this point Jamie recommends leaving the section more general instead of including the specifics the board has previously talked about. Her impression is that folks will not immediately move to cut down larger trees. Board members decided to keep the language more general.

General Liability Insurance – the board revisited the draft language. Currently the smallest licensed companies are meeting the draft language requirements already.

The board discussed the language around tree protection and locating the standards which are in the rules and regs document rather than in the code itself. The board wants to make sure it is clear where to find the information. Additionally, the board discussed the best way to make sure that tree protections standards are easily accessible for the developments to consider.

### **Subcommittee meeting for Rules and Regs scheduled by 9/18 from 8:30 – 9:30.**

Sarah Kenendy updated the board on her replacement – Cameron Walters has accepted the position and both will come to the meeting on 10/2. She will have the opportunity to give the new person training. The new person is technically a part of the communications department (rather than solely responsible to the Parks and Recreation department). They will still be responsible for all the department communication, marketing, etc. Cameron's expertise is strong in Canva, and less so in Adobe Illustrator though Sarah will be giving him training on that program as well.

Board members discussed updating the bylaws. Currently the bylaws indicate the State Forest Service representative is a permanent position. The board has previously discussed changing that requirement to additionally include a permanent position for the CSU extension officer. Currently the board is 7 members plus a council member which makes it a board of 8 voting members. Kami wonders if the board should amend bylaws to include a 6<sup>th</sup> rotating member so that the total is a board of 9. Jamie Beard reminded the board that board membership is defined in Chapter 2 of the code and would need to be amended as well. The City Attorney has advised that council members are voting members.

Board members are in favor of including the CSU Extension Officer as a permanent of the board. Since a couple of board members are absent board members will discuss the total number of board members at a future meeting.

**Other Items**

Board members talked about the condition of Las Colonias. Rob talked with the board about the current staff time and duties at this location. One staff member spends the majority of their working hours in Las Colonias managing the quick couplers, encouraging native plant growth, and addressing noxious weeds. This year, staff have spent a significant amount of time on the Watson island area working on disc golf tee boxes as well as addressing native and noxious plants.

**Forestry Updates**

Rob Davis advised the board that after two years of working with ISA, a certified tree worker class will be offered in Grand Junction on December 8. On December 9 the trainers will provide a proctoring class so that the certification can be offered locally more frequently.

**The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 10:01am**

**Next Meeting** – Rescheduled to October 3, 8:30 am

Respectfully submitted,  
Ali Little, Administrative Specialist