



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

November 8, 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 8:04 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Kamie Long
Shirley Nilsen
Richard Edwards
Charles Thompson
Teddy Hildebrandt

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Tom Ziola, Forestry Supervisor
Darcy Austin, Leisure Service Representative

City Council Member:

Marty Chazen

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Richard Edwards moved to approve the October 11, 2013 Forestry Board Minutes with changes to Richard Edwards motioning. Charles Thompson seconded the motion to approve.

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Item 3: Licensing

Tom Ziola stated that the City Council Meeting went well and the classes for obtaining a Forestry License have been ordained by Council and will go into effect 1/1/2014. Cemetery revisions went into effect on November 1st and we are preparing to send out letters regarding the classes coming up in December. Kamie Long stated that we should offer classes in December and another set around March so newly hired crew leaders, who come on in the spring, can get the training needed to take the test. The test date would be December 16, 2013 after the trainings which would be the 2nd or 7th and the 9th or

14th. The instructors for the classes would be Community Forester Vince and some city staff that our certified Arborists. Shirley Nilsen and Randy Coleman would like to take the training. Marty Chazen asked if the classes would be hands on or just “in office” training and Tom Ziola stated there would be hands on training. Kamie Long agreed that there would be classroom work the first week and hands on experience the second week.

Tom Ziola stated that we would be sending out renewal notices regarding test dates and we would be covering pruning techniques, insects and disease in the classes which is what would be on the test. A sub-committee involving Kamie Long, Richard Edwards, Shirley Nilsen and Randy Coleman has been put together to cover the information for the classes. Tom has received good feedback from companies he hasn't heard of before. We also will be putting together a list of business that advertise in the classifieds and mail them a letter regarding the upcoming classes and test date. Tom Ziola is going to work on a “We are glad you asked” article for the paper as a way to reach out to all the companies in town about the Forestry License and what the Forestry Board is. The article would come out on November 22, 2013 and would include the test date and classes for professionals. Marty Chazen suggested that we put together a video of the classes and put it on the website so organizations have access to the information.

Richard Edwards stated that property management companies need to attend the classes and take the test as well. Also asked about proof of liability insurance and workman's compensation and asked how this would impact “master gardeners”, feels that the insurance requirements may be a struggle for some. Tom Ziola stated that we are trying to make standards for all companies and are not trying to penalize anyone and that if they work alone they wouldn't be required to have the liability insurance or workman's compensation. Teddy Hildebrandt stated that liability insurance at \$100,000 is minimal at around \$40 a month.

Item 4: Ordinances

Kamie Long is working on updating the Ordinances and brought some examples from the City of Ft. Collins Ordinances. Would like everyone to look over them and come back with some suggestions.

Item 5: Yard of the Month

Charles Thompson presented the plaque to the final Yard of the Month winner and dropped off a letter to Bookcliff Gardens, thanking them for their support. Tom Ziola told the Board that the Grand Junction Rockies made a \$500 donation to Forestry. Kamie Long asked if the Board felt there should be any changes to the program next year but the Board felt it was a great year and that the gift cards was a great idea and a fun reward for the winners. Marty Chazen stated that this was a fun agenda item for Council and they really enjoy it. Tom Ziola thanked Marty Chazen and other Council members for supporting this program.

Item 6: New Business

The City won the 2013 Starburst Community award for the Lincoln Park Renovation and also received a \$250,000.00 Grant from GOCO. This Friday we illuminate the holiday tree in downtown, with the event starting at 5:00 p.m. and Santa arriving at/around 5:45 p.m. The Parade of Lights will be on December

6th. Tom Ziola would like to talk to Lorie Gregor, City of Grand Junction, Recreation Leader II, about the poster contest and having them posted at City Hall next year.

Shirley Nilsen stated she needed to get the revised “A” and “C” and get it sent to Rubel so he can update the Spanish test. Kamie Long made an electronic answer key for both “A” and “C”.

Kamie long discussed the Tree Campus program at Colorado Mesa University and how they are working on finishing a tree management plan but that the students have to do a service project yet. There is a meeting on November 15th and they have to come up with a “tree service project” and really need to commit to something soon.

Item 8: Adjourn

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

Motion adopted by the Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 5 No 0

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Darcy Austin