



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

February 7, 2014

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 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

Chuck Thompson
Kamie Long
Richard Edwards
Shirley Nilsen
Teddy Hildebrandt

Special Guest:

Vince Urbina, Colorado State Forest Service

Parks & Recreation Staff Present:

Tom Ziola, Parks Supervisor
Jessica Dennison, Parks Sr Administrative Assistant

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Richard Edwards moved to approve the January 10, 2014 Forestry Board Minutes. Teddy Hildebrandt seconded the motion to approve.

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

Item 3: Western Slope Tree Care Workshop 2014 Planning

Special guest, Vince Urbina with the Colorado State Forest Service attended the Forestry Advisory Board meeting to discuss combining The Western Slope Tree Care Workshop with Western Colorado Community Forestry Conference. Each year Mr. Urbina organizes the conference, and this year he was planning to hold it in Grand Junction.

Tom Ziola and Shirley Nilsen mentioned having the event at Two Rivers Convention Center, or the Avalon Theater. The new hospitality room at the Avalon Theater would not work for the workshop; however the stage and theater seating would work. Mr. Ziola will look into pricing and receive further details. Shirley Nilsen stated by having the event at the Avalon or Two Rivers Convention Center; the

Police and Fire Station would be in walking distance to show Netafim irrigation systems. Mr. Ziola added that Whitman Park is in walking distance for a climbing session. Mr. Ziola stated Mesa County Building C has been reserved free of charge, as a backup. Teddy Hildebrandt suggested having the event at the Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints church, and which would be free of charge. Mr. Ziola asked Teddy to reserve the church off of G Road as a backup.

Kamie Long stated she sent an email to Whitney Crenshaw to see if he is available to speak at the event, and will follow up with him next week at the ProGreen Expo. Tom Ziola stated he contacted Michael Kuhns, and he is available to speak at a cost.

Richard Edwards stated he thought “Trees and Irrigation” would be a good topic to go cover. Tom Ziola stated he would talk with Linda Friesen, Parks Operations Water Manager, to see if she has any recommendations for speakers on irrigation and trees. Vince Urbina suggested having someone talk about Emerald Ash Bore since it has become a major issue. Teddy Hildebrandt also suggested black scale and how to diagnose before it is too late. Chuck Thompson stated he would like to hear about trimming mature trees vs. young trees. Vince Urbina will contact Dave Sexton with the City of Fort Collins, to see if he would be available to speak about pruning techniques. The Forestry Board also discussed having a tree climbing session. Mr. Urbina will look into finding a climber for the event, possibly a female climber.

The Forestry Board discussed the layout of the event as followed:

- Michael Kuhns- “Tree Drought” and “Tree Selection”
- Whitney Crenshaw- Emerald Ash Bore and the top 5 Western Colorado pests
- Four Afternoon Break Out Sessions: Irrigation / Climbing / Pruning / Forestry License Class

Tom Ziola asked the Board to think of a theme name for the event.

Item 4: Forestry Training Manual Updates

Last month each Board Member was assigned a section in the Forestry License Training Manual to make sure each test question is addressed in the manual, and to discuss any changes/updates at the next meeting:

- Biology- Shirley (14 questions)
- Tree ID, Selection, Safety, Climbing- Chuck (11 questions)
- Pruning- Kamie (18 questions)
- Health, Abiotic and Biotic- Teddy (13 questions)
- Matching section- Rich (16 questions)

Each Board Member made several changes to each section and will send changes to Kamie Long to compile. Kamie Long asked the Board to continue making changes and corrections to the manual and test.

Item 5: Arbor Day 2014 Planning

Jessica Dennison stated flyers have been sent to every Grand Valley school. Seven schools; 487 participates have signed up already. CPC Solutions will be sending a draft for the cover on the donated paper pads, and will be sending that out for approval soon. Shirley Nilsen stated the Spanish version has almost been converted for Dual Immersion School.

Kamie Long stated she hasn't heard from the Arbor Day Foundation on whether the City won the Arbor Day Award, but hopes to hear from them soon.

The Forestry Board discussed activities for Southwest Arborfest:

- Tree Climbing: Teddy Hildebrandt, Chuck Thompson, and the City Forestry Crew will have two climbing areas for kids. May look into having a height restriction set.
- Teddy Hildebrandt suggested "Guess the Circumference and Height of the Tree" and donate a full size tree to the winner (provided by the City).
- Mr. Hildebrandt also suggested having a chainsaw carver come in for demonstrations. His cousin, who is a carver from Texas, would be glad to carve for the event.
- Kamie Long suggested a scavenger hunt for kids. Kids could have a punch card, and have to answer a question at each station. Mrs. Long will continue to brainstorm ideas for the hunt.
- A log race, or pine cone on spoon race was also mentioned. Could use the MC to organize the race.
- Free Tree Care Services will be provided. Jessica Dennison will update and send the letters to tree care companies to find volunteers to provide free tree care service.

Item 6: New Business

Tom Ziola stated the City Clerk's office has received two Forestry Advisory Board applications to fill the vacation Forestry Advisory Board position. City Council will vote to whom will receive the position. Chuck Thompson has been moved from the alternate member position to regular board member.

Tom Ziola stated he spoke with the Jamie Beard, Assistant City Attorney as well as the Parks Supervisory staff, and decided to hold off on requiring yearly Continuing Education Units (CEU's) for Licensed Tree Care Providers, as we have already made so many changes to the ordinance, and have already raised the bar. Mr. Ziola suggested evaluating CEU's in the next year or two.

Tom Ziola asked for clarification as to whether a tree care provider has an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) certification would need to take the City Forestry License exam to become licensed by the City. The Forestry Board agreed that all owners or designee will need to take the City Forestry License exam to become licensed, however if a crew member of a licensed company has an ISA certification they would not need to take the exam, but show proof of certification. Kamie Long moved to approve the update to Forestry License requirements. Shirley Nilsen seconded the motion to approve.

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

Item 7: Adjourn

Kamie Long reiterated the next meeting date of **Thursday March 6**, and asked for further discussion before adjourning the meeting. Richard Edwards seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Dennison