



**GRAND JUNCTION FORESTRY ADVISORY  
BOARD MINUTES  
JANUARY 3, 2003**



**Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Vince Urbina at 8:10 a.m.**

Roll Call

Board Members present: Vince Urbina  
Steve Gerow  
Mike Heinz  
Mitch Elliott

Parks Dept. Staff Present: Mike Vendegna

Non Board Members Present: None

**Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Due to non-quorum a meeting did not take place in December 2002 - no minutes available for review.

**Item 3: Report from City Forestry Department**

1. Christmas light installation has taken place at City Hall, Parks Administrative Offices, 12<sup>th</sup> and North Avenue, Visitors & Convention Bureau, Avalon Theater and Two Rivers Convention Center. Inspection and repair of lights began October 15<sup>th</sup>, installation November 4<sup>th</sup> and the lighting ceremony took place November 29<sup>th</sup>. Lights are scheduled for removal in January 2003.
2. Kory Jones has been selected as the new full time Equipment Operator for the Forestry Division.
3. Planning has begun for the 2003 maintenance season. The supervisor and the Forestry Division maintenance staff are evaluating successes and failures in 2002 and developing a plan for 2003.
4. Street tree, park and facility tree removals have begun. The number of trees being removed is drastically down from past years and the removal process should be completed by mid February.
5. The forestry division will be replacing the bandit chipper, the winch truck, and the supervisor's vehicle in 2003.

**Item 4: Old Business****WESTERN SLOPE TREE CARE WORKSHOP:**

Mike Vendegna reported that the workshop was a huge success and he has received a great deal of positive feedback. The Two Rivers Convention Center proved to be an excellent location. The facility, staff and the lunch provided was truly excellent. The workshop has paid for itself and we did not have to increase prices. All the speakers received very high marks on the evaluations that were turned in. Vince Urbina stated the topic, Hazard Tree Evaluation, was timely and well received. Mike Vendegna said the biggest problem we face now as a Board is to come up with a program next year that will be equal or better. Vince Urbina reminded the Board this was the 7<sup>th</sup> workshop and each year the Forestry Division and the Board develops programs that are pertinent at the time. Mr. Urbina asked the Board members to please think about next year's program and to bring any ideas to the next Forestry Board meeting. Vince Urbina suggested topics to think about; topping, the legal aspect of tree trimming, and how to select a professional trimmer. Mike Heinz said suggested the Board members take these examples and reconvene with this subject at the next meeting. All members agreed.

**Item 5: New Business****ARBOR DAY 2002:**

It's about that time of year again; Arbor Day is right around the corner. Mike Vendegna asked the Board members to please start thinking about this year's program and bring suggestions to the next meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER VACANCY:**

There has been a Forestry Board member vacancy for over a year and until recently no one has shown any interest in serving on the Board. Mike Vendegna presented the Board with three applications he had received from the City Clerk's office in December. Vince Urbina suggested each Board member review the applications and make their recommendation and a second selection. Each member reviewed the applications. Based on experience, the top two picks were unanimous. A recommendation and the applications will be sent to the City Clerk's office for City Council's review.

**PICTURES FOR BROCHURES:**

Vince Urbina asked the Board to please look for pictures of trees they may currently have or specimen trees that could be photographed. The pictures are needed to develop a brochure of trees that grow in the valley and for next year's CTC Notable Tree Calendar. Mike Vendegna also said in conjunction with the calendar he was approached by Karen Peterson to develop a tree list for the City's web site. The site would have (3) seasonal pictures of the trees and a picture of the leaf and seed. Also, the site will provide a brief description of the growing habits and the positive and negative attributes of the tree. In addition, this information will be put into brochure form for Forestry staff members to give to homeowners during planting season. This will expedite the work order process

and give the homeowner a better understanding of what trees are available. Vince Urbina asked Board members to call him if they see a tree that is photo worthy and he will take pictures. Mr. Vendegna stated he wants to start this process soon, realizing it will take over a year to complete, due to wanting seasonal pictures.

**UP-COMING PLANS FOR THE FORESTRY BOARD IN 2003:**

Mike Vendegna asked each member to give some thought to goals for the Board in 2003. He and Vince Urbina agreed that regular meetings and correspondence was the major goal and all members agreed to make as many meetings as possible. Mr. Vendegna asked if the meeting time and place was adequate and all members agreed to keep the same venue. Mike Vendegna suggested one of the goals for the Board in 2003 would be to review the ordinance for the Board and Forestry Division and also review and establish bylaws for the Board. All members feel this is an excellent idea. They all agreed it may be a slow process but a very worthy project. Mike Vendegna agreed to make copies of all ordinances and bylaws and send them for Board review and discussion at a later date.

**Item 6: Adjourn**

Vince Urbina reiterated the next meeting date is February 7, 2003 and asked for any further discussion before adjourning the meeting. No discussion was requested. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Vendegna  
Grand Junction Parks Department  
Forestry Maintenance Supervisor