



***FORESTRY ADVISORY
BOARD MINUTES***

May 6, 2005

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Chairman Urbina at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Vince Urbina
Dutch Afman
David Gave
Ian Gray
Mike Heinz

Board Members Absent: None

Forestry Division Staff Present: Mike Vendegna, Forestry Supervisor

Guests: Kamie Long, Colorado State Forest Service

Item 2: Approve Minutes

No minutes available

Item 3: Report from City Forestry Department

1. Mike Vendegna reported that things are going very well even though the forestry division crews are assisting the cemetery and horticulture divisions with various projects. Dan Wiedrich has been instrumental in design and installation of 6 new planting beds and the new cremation garden landscaping at the city cemeteries including a patio for the new Columbarium.
2. Half of the street tree plantings have been completed, 182 trees planted to date.
3. The horticulture division will begin planting annual plants the first week in May.
4. Mr. Vendegna distributed to board members copies of the month end reports he submits to his supervisor each month. Mr. Vendegna stated this is an attempt to keep the board members more informed as to what the three divisions under his supervision are doing.

Report from City Forestry Department - continued:

5. David Bullen, Ernie Valencia, Shawn Nelson and Willie Berg are underway with a huge planting project at West Lake Skate Park. An anticipated 30 trees will be transplanted from the city nursery and 25 trees will be purchased.
6. Mr. Vendegna stated additional planting projects for the month of May will be tree planting at Wingate Park and North Avenue Islands. Trees, shrubs and flowers will be planted at the front entrance to Lincoln Park off 12th Street.
7. Mr. Vendegna reported that the full time tree watering program is underway. A seasonal employee has been hired to water 2" to 5" diameter trees from March to the end of October.

Item 4: Arbor Day 2005 – wrap up:

Vince Urbina presented to the board a power point presentation of the trip to Nebraska City Nebraska that Mr. Urbina, Mike Vendegna, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director Don Hobbs and most of the forestry division crew members attended to receive the 2005 National Arbor Day award for outstanding Arbor Day Celebrations. Mr. Urbina described the trip and events that took place. Mr. Vendegna stated that "Arborfest 2005" and South West Arborfest was a true success. Mr. Vendegna stated he has received many positive comments regarding both events. An estimated 5,000 to 6,000 were in attendance. Mr. Vendegna suggested a topic for Arborfest 2006 may be "More people more trees". Mr. Vendegna asked the board to please give him any suggestions for the 2006 program. Mr. Vendegna stated that Ian Gray's idea of the "Lorax" was a national award winner and the forestry division welcomes any ideas and suggestions.

At the end of the presentation and discussion Mr. Urbina stated that due to prior commitments by Mr. Vendegna and Mr. Urbina the board will not be discussing the ordinance at this meeting, but will discuss the 2005 Western Slope Tree Care Workshop.

Item 5: 2005 Western Slope Tree Care Workshop.

Mike Vendegna distributed to the board a handout containing conversations between Vince Urbina and Mike Kuhns, an Extension Forestry Professor at Utah State University. Mr. Kuhns has agreed to speak at the Workshop on December 8, 2005 at the Two Rivers Convention Center. Mr. Urbina stated Mr. Kuhns has written a very good book on planting techniques that Mr. Urbina has a copy of. Mr. Kuhns has agreed to speak for up to four hours on the subjects of; tree selection, trees and construction, trees and turf and planting techniques (staking, wrapping, mulching, fertilizing). Mr. Urbina stated the workshop organizers will be responsible for his air fare and lodging for the one day event. Mr. Vendegna stated that should not be a problem because the registrations will cover that. Dutch Afman suggested he conduct a talk on fertilizing. Mr. Vendegna stated we will definitely put that in his topic outline. Mr. Urbina suggested we ask Dennis Hill with Bookcliff Gardens to discuss shrub care as he did a few years ago when the workshop was in Palisade. Mr. Urbina stated he would also be on the agenda if needed. Mr. Urbina would like to discuss champion trees of Colorado. Mike Vendegna stated we will not have a second day of the workshop this year and we may go back to the two day format at future workshops if the need presents itself. Mr. Urbina asked for further discussion of the workshop agenda, none took place.

Item 5: Adjourn

Chairman Vince Urbina asked for any further discussion, none took place. Mr. Urbina stated that at the next meeting scheduled for June 3, 2005 the board members come prepared to discuss that ordinance review sections that were to be discussed at today's meeting. Sections (40-57) (40-58) – (40-59) – (40-60) – (40-61). Mr. Urbina requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dutch Afman moved and Dave Gave seconded. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Meeting adjourned at 9: 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Vendegna
Grand Junction Parks Department – Forestry Maintenance Supervisor