



***FORESTRY ADVISORY
BOARD MINUTES***

February 3, 2006

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Vice Chair Dutch Afman at 8:10 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: Vince Urbina
Dutch Afman
David Gave

Board Members Absent: Ian Gray
Mike Heinz

Forestry Division Staff Present: Mike Vendegna, Forestry Supervisor

Guests: Kamie Long

Item 2: Approve Minutes

Dutch Afman reported his name was misspelled on page two of the January 13th minutes and requested the misspelling be corrected. Vince Urbina asked if there were any other changes to the December 2nd or the January 13th minutes, none were reported. Dutch Afman moved to approve the December 2, 2005 and the January 13, 2006 Grand Junction Forestry Board minutes with the stated change, Dave Gave second.

Motion adopted by the Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 3 No 0

Item 3: Report from City Forestry Department

1. Mike Vendegna reported that the new tree inventory in conjunction with the city's current GIS mapping system is under way and going very well. Eight out of the first fifteen parks are complete. The tree inventory is part of a complete Park inventory that is taking place at the same time. Every stationary item such as benches, tables, playgrounds, planting beds and all boundaries will be surveyed as well as all irrigation system components. The tree inventory will include, identification by species, the diameter, height and condition will be determined as well as a cost factor for each tree. Mr. Vendegna stated this has been a dream of the forestry division for a very long time.
2. Mr. Vendegna reported the five forestry division and two horticulture crew members attended the Progreen Expo in Denver January 23rd to the 27th.
3. Mr. Vendegna reported forestry crews assisted with snow removal, cleaning sidewalks and removing trash on Main Street and Two Rivers Convention Center.
4. Mr. Vendegna reported the Christmas light removal has begun and should be completed by the end of February.
5. Mr. Vendegna reported that there are only six trees left to remove and should be complete within the next two weeks.

Item 4: Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon:

Vince Urbina reported to the board that the Volunteer luncheon sponsored by the City Council and City Managers office was excellent. Each member of the board was presented with a gift of appreciation.

Item 5: Continued discussion of the tree maintenance ordinance:

Mike Vendegna requested that Vince Urbina and Ian Gray assist Mr. Vendegna with completing the ordinance review and preparing forestry board bylaws. Mr. Urbina to assist with the bylaws and Mr. Gray with the ordinance review. Mr. Vendegna's request comes after Mr. Urbina and Mr. Gray volunteered to assist. Mr. Vendegna stated he would work with both board members to complete these projects.

Item 6: Arborfest and South West / Arbor Fest:

Vince Urbina requested the dates for the 2006 Arbor Day activities. Mike Vendegna stated Arborfest well be held on Thursday April 20th and South West Arborfest well be on Saturday April 22nd. Mr. Vendegna reiterated from the last meeting that the Grand Valley Audubon Society will be participating in the City of Grand Junction's 2006 Arbor Day activities. At the last meeting Peggy Vaughn gave a brief explanation of the Audubon Society, its purpose of education and a proposal to join in Arborfest activities in lieu of having a separate Bird Festival.

Item 6: Arborfest and South West / Arbor Fest continued:

Ms. Vaughn handed to each board member a list of four possible interactive ideas that may fit well with the activities of Arborfest.

- Home Sweet Home
- Trees as Habitats
- Every Tree for Itself
- Fine Art of Nesting.

Ms. Vaughn said that each station can be adapted to fit our needs and the Audubon Society would bring as many volunteers necessary to run each station. Mike Heinz stated this proposal would work very well with the student program, Dutch Afman and Ian Gray strongly agreed. Ms. Vaughn said the Society would love to participate in both the Thursday, student, and Saturday programs. She foresees more hands on activities during the student program and an informational both on Saturday. Mr. Vendegna recommended that Ms. Vaughn or another member of the Audubon Society conduct an indoor program as well as the outdoor stations. At the January 13, 2006 meeting all board members present agreed and Ms. Vaughn and the Audubon Society will be invited to planning meetings.

Item 8: Next Forestry Board Meeting

Vince Urbina asked board members if there were any conflicts with the next scheduled meeting March 3, 2006. There were no conflicts. David Gave moved to meet on March 3, 2006 Dutch Afman second.

Motion adopted by the Forestry Advisory Board: Yes 3 No 0

Item 9: Adjourn

Chairman Urbina requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dutch Afman moved and Dave Gave second. The meeting was adjourned by acclimation.

Meeting adjourned at 9: 10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Vendegna
Grand Junction Parks Department – Forestry Maintenance Supervisor