



FORESTRY ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

November 2, 2007

Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by Mike Vendegna 8:10 a.m.

Roll Call

Board Members present: None

Board Members Absent: None

Forestry Division Staff Present: Mike Vendegna, Forestry Supervisor

Guests: Bob Johnston
Steve Gerow
Mike Heinz
David Gave
Kamie Long

Item 2: Introduction of prospective Board Members

Mike Vendegna began the board meeting by introducing Bob Johnston, Steve Gerow, Mike Heinz, David Gave and Kamie Long to each other as prospective board members. All candidates have sent applications to the City Council expressing the desire to serve on the forestry board. Mr. Vendegna gave a brief background of each candidate as well as each candidate going in to some detail regarding their background.

Item 3: Report from City Forestry Department

Mike Vendegna introduced himself as the Forestry Supervisor for the City of Grand Junction Parks and Recreation Department. Mr. Vendegna stated he is responsible for three divisions, Forestry, Horticulture and City Cemeteries. Mr. Vendegna expressed that horticulture and forestry are two of the most rapid growing divisions within the Parks Department. The Riverside Parkway, 7th Street landscaping, I-70 and 24 road Roundabouts to name very few of the new areas of responsibilities added to the existing high profile properties such as Main Street, City Hall, Two Rivers Convention Center, etc.

Report from City Forestry Department continued

Bob Johnston asked how many employees there were to maintain all these areas. Mr. Vendegna stated there are 7 full time forestry employees, three full time and up to 10 seasonal horticulture employees, and 3 full time and 3 seasonal cemetery employees. Mr. Vendegna said three new horticulture employees have been approved in the 2008 budget. Mr. Vendegna stated his intent for this report was to give an overview of the forestry / horticulture / cemetery division's duties and responsibilities and will report more details at future board meetings.

Item 4: Explanation of the Forestry Board duties and responsibilities, goals and objectives:

Mike Vendegna presented a brief overview of the history of the Forestry Board, events the board participates in and the major duties of the Forestry Board., i.e. licensing and monitoring of licensed tree crew companies within the City of Grand Junction.

Item 5: Election of Officers:

Mike Vendegna requested that if the board has been approved and sworn in on or before the next meeting, scheduled December 7th, that the board elects officers, chair and vice chair. Everyone agreed.

Item 6: Forestry Board bylaw discussion:

Mike Vendegna stated that one of the major goals of past Forestry Boards was to establish bylaws and review and update the forestry ordinance. Mr. Vendegna stated that the bylaws are completed and ready for review by the board and the ordinance is 50% completed. Mr. Vendegna stated he will give to each member a copy of the bylaws, the existing ordinance and the licensing requirements.

Item 7: Adjourn

Mike Vendegna requested the meeting be adjourned at 9:15 a.m. all agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 9: 15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Vendegna
Grand Junction Parks Department – Forestry Maintenance Supervisor