



*Grand Junction Forestry Advisory  
Board Minutes*

*March 7, 2008*

**Item 1: Meeting Called to Order by David Gave at 8:00 a.m.**

**Roll Call**

Board Members Present: Kamie Long  
David Gave  
Molly Pierce  
Steve Gerow  
Bob Johnston

Board Members Absent: Mike Heinz

Parks Dept. Staff Present: Mike Vendegna

**Item 2: Approve Minutes**

Dave Gave moved to approve the February 1, 2008 minutes. Steve Gerow seconded the motion.

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

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

1. "Spring is springing but it has not sprung!" Plant and tree lists are being put together for the upcoming planting season.
2. The Horticulture Division went on a tour of the new Parkway to see the overwhelming task that will lie ahead of them. Hill sides on 5<sup>th</sup> street will be full of shrubs! Mike Vendegna would like to meet up with the Engineer to come up with the best compromise as to what plants would be easiest to maintain while keeping plant health, and that would *also* make the Gateway Committee satisfied.

#### **Item 4: Old Business**

1. Planning for Arbor Day is underway. Mike Vendegna stated that three informal meetings have taken place with Forestry and Horticulture crews to discuss solutions to the problems that arise within the Arbor Day Student Program. Mr. Vendegna further explained that by having the whole program outside rather than in the barn would help eliminate crowding in the barn. The play production (*Forester Al and His Pals*) will be shortened immensely creating more time for the educational stations. Due to poor sound equipment a company will be hired out to do the sound system outside. Mr. Vendegna stated that he will be asking for volunteers to help run radios at all the different educational stations to keep things on task and on time. Essentially, all the problems discussed in the meetings are on their way to being solved creating a better Arbor Day Program than before. Kamie Long suggested making maps of the park for teachers to help them direct their classes to the next station
2. It is the City's 25<sup>th</sup> year for being a Tree City USA! Celebration plans are being developed. Mr. Vendegna stated that some initial ideas were to plant 25 trees at 25 schools for the 25<sup>th</sup> year. However, the life expectancy for trees on school grounds is not very high. Mr. Vendegna stated that a suggestion was made to do a mass planting at *one* location. Discussion was made as to what location would be best suitable for a mass donation of trees. Mr. Vendegna suggested that Mesa State College could be a great location due to all the new building expansion happening on campus. Ideas for location are always welcome!
3. Mr. Vendegna stated that he'd like the Forestry Board (if they'd like to attend) to go to City Council and present the 25 Trees for 25 Years along with the two plantings at the Dog Park and Eagle Rim Trail Head. Mr. Vendegna stated that he will provide the Forestry Board with further information as time approaches. Mr. Vendegna stated that a local car dealership wanted to donate trees for every car sold in March. Those trees donated will be used in tree plantings.
4. Bob Johnston stated that his Alternate Board Member position for the Forestry Board has been made official. Congratulations Bob and welcome *officially* to the Board!!!
5. Mr. Vendegna stated that the Western Colorado Community Conference will be held on September 12<sup>th</sup> at Two Rivers Convention Center. The topic will be "The Benefits of Trees."
6. Mr. Vendegna stated that the Western Slope Tree Care Workshop will be held on either December 4<sup>th</sup> or the 11<sup>th</sup> at Two Rivers Convention Center. Mr. Vendegna stated that a theme has not been decided on, but that he'd like to meet up with local tree care workers to accumulate ideas. Mr. Vendegna stated that he'd like to get back to the basics. Mr. Johnston suggested that one of the topics be, "When is

- a good time to start trimming trees?" Kamie Long volunteered to possibly speak during the workshop!
7. Mrs. Long stated that the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Boards and Commissions Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was excellent and was sad to see that only a few Forestry Board Members attended.

**Item 5: New Business**

There was no new business to discuss at the time.

**Item 6: Adjourn**

Dave Gave reiterated the next meeting date of April 4, 2008 and asked for further discussion before adjourning the meeting. Kamie Long motioned to adjourn. Steve Gerow seconded the motion.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Norman  
Grand Junction Parks Department  
Administrative Assistant