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Forestry Advisory Board Agenda

Virtual Meeting – contact Allison Little (254-3861) for meeting details

January 7, 2021

8:30 AM

Call to Order

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes from December 3 Meeting

Forestry Updates

Tree City USA Conference Registrations

- i. Virtual - February 10, 17 & 24
11:00 AM - 12:30 PM CST each day
- ii. Agenda still not set

Aquaponics presentations

Tree City USA application and Growth Awards

- i. New certified arborist, inventory internship, and October storm funding

24 Road Planning

Fire 3 Construction and Tree Protection

- i. Tree protection detail and standard notes

Portable Mill

Spring Tree Order Funded Through Vehicle Accident

Full Time Hiring Plan

- i. Parks supervisor, crew leader stadium, and irrigation operator in process; Filling Forestry arborist position to be evaluated in February based on January sales tax

New Business

Forestry Board Licensing Request for Reviews

- i. Plan for scheduling reviews
 - ii. Board Majority in Attendance
 - iii. Meeting Management Plans
1. What needs to be provided by individual requesting review?
 2. Qualifiers for allowing grace period
 3. Decision and follow up

Public Comments

Adjournment

Next Meeting Date

February 4, 2020 - 8:30 a.m.



Grand Junction Forestry Advisory Board Minutes

*December 3, 2020
held Virtually*

Meeting called to Order by Susan Carter, at 8:39 AM.

Roll Call

Board Members Present:

- Bennett Boeschstein
- Susan Carter
- Mollie Higginbotham
- Kamie Long
- Paul Morency
- Vince Urbina

Absent Board Members: Tom Ziola

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Rob Davis, City Forester & Open Space Supervisor
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

Approve Minutes for November 5 Forestry Advisory Board Meeting. Mollie Higginbotham was listed as both present and absent in Roll Call.

Kamie Long made a motion to approve the minutes with the amendment removing Mollie's name from present. The motion was seconded by Bennett Boeschstein and approved unanimously.

Forestry Updates

- a) Open Space Trail System Development
 - Staff are creating a 2 mile trail around the open space area near the Tiara Rado Driving Range
 - Additionally, some secondary trails going through, skirting more dense wildlife areas
 - There will be signage, and fencing along the road, but the trails will remain natural and unpaved
- b) Forestry Mulcher and River Trail
 - Utilizing a forestry mulcher to open up trail areas in the open space
 - Additionally staff are creating some single track trail areas adjacent to the River Front Trail where folks can dive off paved trail and explore more natural areas
- c) Fall Plantings
 - Planned fall plantings have been completed
 - Vandalized Memorial tree in Lincoln Park was replanted

d) Removals and Work Requests

- 250 trees are on the removal list
- The storm really backed up our progress on evaluation, planting which puts removals behind as well
- The storm is also generating new trimming requests

e) ISA International Conference

- Staff is signed up to attend the conference this year which is fully virtual to complete CEU requirements
- Lots of good topics/subjects and presentations

f) PROS Master Plan and Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan

- Worked hard to make sure the benefits of the tree canopy (all trees, not just park trees) and green infrastructure were captured in the Parks Master Plan
- Staff made comments in Comprehensive plan regarding educating public about their trees and the benefits of a robust tree canopy from an air quality and storm water management standpoint
- The Comprehensive Plan suggests completing an Urban Forestry master plan and establishing criteria in the code for preservation of the canopy
- Also suggests ensuring projects coordinate plantings, tree protection, and preservation of old trees on new construction in established neighborhoods
- There is a roundabout planned for 24 Rd and staff is working with engineering to try to preserve tree lawns and make sure this entry way to the city has green infrastructure, not just gray.
- Board members indicated a strong desire to advocate for green infrastructure and will draft a letter in support of staff recommendations

g) Tree City USA

- Application due December 17
- Also applying for the Growth Award

h) Contractor Licensing

- The Board has adopted a “firm but fair” policy for exceptions and review requests.
- Review requests will be evaluated
 - i. If companies have made an effort to get certified, but have failed the test (or haven’t received results yet)
 - ii. If individuals don’t meet ISA’s minimum requirements for certification
 - iii. New applications for companies who were unaware of licensing requirement
 - iv. Additional extenuating circumstances
- The Board’s decision to enforce the certification requirement stems from a strong desire to ensure that companies are operating at an appropriate professional level.

Bennet Boeschstein made a motion that the Forestry Board approve the process and guidelines for tree care companies to request a Review of Circumstance. The motion was seconded by Kamie Long and carried unanimously.

- The Board determined Review of Circumstances will be specially called meetings attended by a majority of board members.

Kamie Long made a motion that the board call a special meeting, requiring a majority of members in attendance, to evaluate requests for Review of Circumstances. The motion was seconded by Bennett Boeschstein and carried unanimously.

- Board members discussed ways to inform the public about street tree trimming requirements
- Ideas include press releases, social media, more robust pages on the new City website, and updates on the Grand Valley Canopy website.

New Business: No new Business

Public Comments: No Public Comments

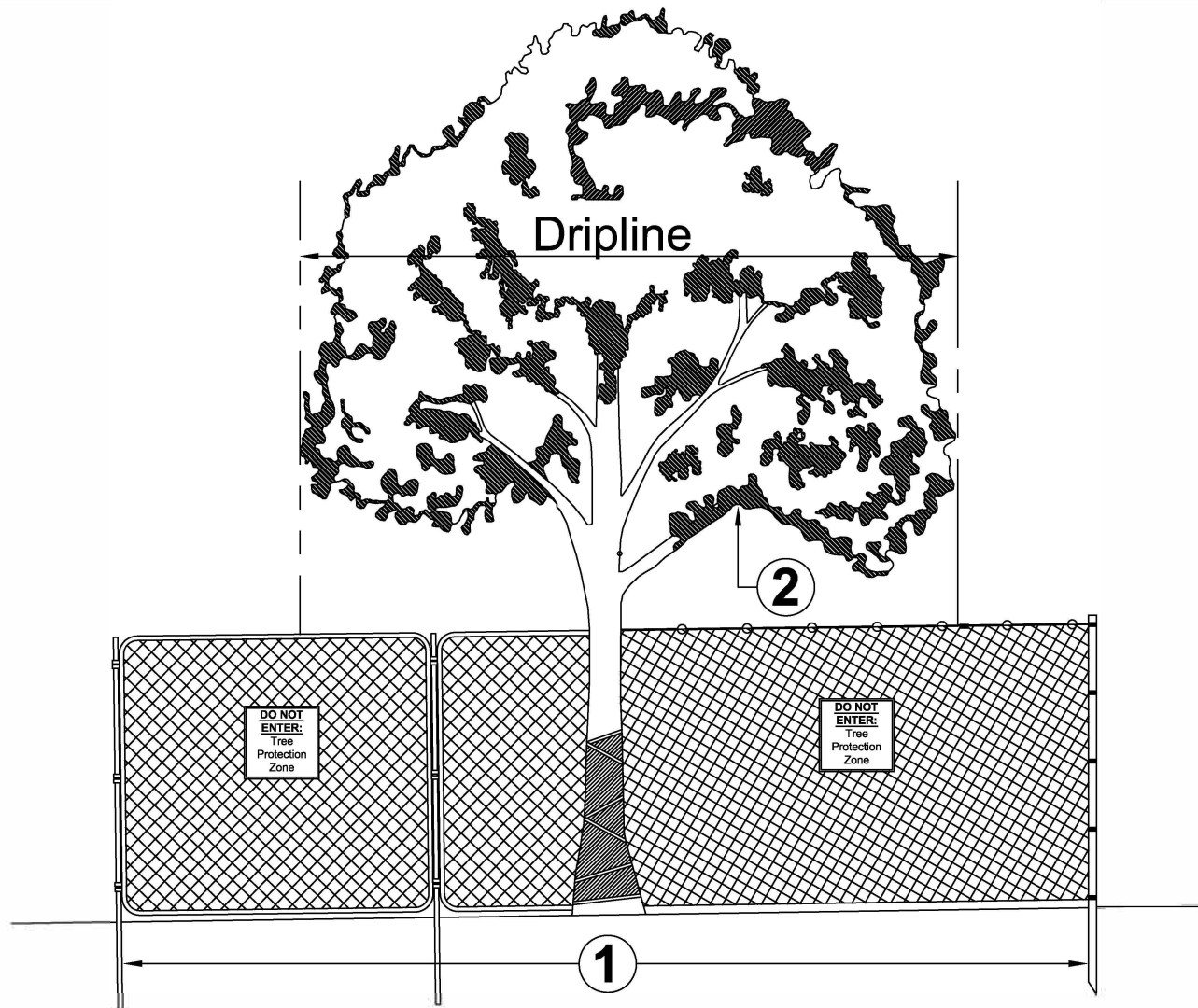
Adjourn: The meeting adjourned by acclimation at 10:12 a.m.

Next Forestry Advisory Board Meeting: Thursday, January 7, 2021 at 8:30am.

Respectfully Submitted,
Allison Little, Administrative Specialist

Grand Junction City Forester (GJCF) Tree Protection Specifications

1. Existing trees to be preserved in public rights of way (ROW) or public places shall be protected per GJCF standards and practices. Tree protection shall be:
 - A. Installed prior to commencement of demolition and/or construction activities
 - B. Inspected and approved by GJCF staff
 - C. Remain in place and as approved until Certificate of Occupancy or Substantial Completion and Final Acceptance is issued
2. Tree protection requirements:
 - A. Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) shall be installed at the dripline, furthest extent of tree canopy, or is equal to eighteen inches radially from the tree for every one inch of trunk diameter at breast height (DBH = 4.5' above soil line), whichever is greater
 - Reduced TPZ areas must be approved by GJCF
 - B. Install six foot (6') chain link fencing prior to commencement of project construction activities
 - With approval of GJCF, 4' orange construction fencing may be acceptable in place of chain link depending on potential impacts of activity
 - C. GJCF staff shall inspect and approve boundaries of tree protection zone(s) prior to commencement of demolition or construction activities
 - D. Once TPZ is in place, the following are not permitted within TPZ without prior written approval from GJCF:
 - Entrance and/or access
 - Moving, resizing, removing, or altering in any manner
 - Storage of materials/debris/equipment
 - Construction activities including but not limited to: rototilling, trenching, grading, installation of underground utilities and/or site improvements, landscaping, irrigation work
 - Irrigation line work shall be completed by directional bore or hand-dig method
 - E. "Tree Protection Zone" signs shall remain in place as posted by GJCF and shall be maintained in the condition in which they were installed
 - F. Tree Pruning for clearance issues must have prior authorization by GJCF staff
 - G. No root 2 inches or larger shall be cut; consult with GJCF staff
3. Existing ROW or public place trees approved for removal by OCF must be protected in place until removed by an GJCF-licensed tree contractor to avoid structural failures:
 - A. An GJCF tree removal permit is required
 - B. Tree removal permits are not included with building permits and/or plan approval and must be obtained separately from the GJCF
4. Clear visibility into TPZ must be maintained. All construction banners, screens, barriers, and/or signs (except GJCF-posted TPZ signs) must be semi-transparent and not impede inspection of TPZ by GJCF staff
5. For projects with a duration of 5 days or longer:
 - A. Protected trees shall be deep-root watered at a minimum interval of once every two weeks when temperatures are at or above 40-degrees
 - B. Trees shall be watered at the rate of 20 gallons per inch caliper
 - OCF may ask for documented proof of watering and/or treatment.
6. Tree removal without permit and damages to public trees may be subject to the following:
 - A. Issuance of notice of violation with associated citations / fines
 - B. Responsible party for tree removal or tree damage shall be responsible for lost value based on industry standard tree appraisal methods as determined by GJCF



Any work in these areas require approval from Grand Junction City Forester (GJCF) prior to activity. Contact GJCF for instruction.

Area 1: Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) and Critical Root Zone Protection (CRZ)

- The Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) shall be equal to dripline or 1.5 feet radially from the tree for every one inch of trunk diameter at breast height (DBH = 4.5' above soil line), whichever is greater. In areas where space is constrained, tree protection zones may be approved at the CRZ radius.
- The Critical Root Zone (CRZ) shall be equal to one foot radially from the tree for every one inch of trunk diameter at breast height.

A. Min 6' in height steel chain link fence is required unless otherwise approved by the GJCF. Steel chain link fence panels or rolls are acceptable. With approval from GJCF, use of orange construction fencing in place of chain link fence may be acceptable.

1. When chain link rolls are installed, it shall be fastened to heavy duty steel posts with safety caps at minimum five (5) attachment points with 12-gauge wire, including points at top and bottom. Weave wire through top of roll to eliminate sag.
2. Posts shall be driven 2' to 3' below grade and spaced at max. five to ten foot (5' - 10') o.c. intervals. Fencing must be kept taut at all times.
3. "Tree Protection Zone" signs shall be placed one (1) per each tree protection zone minimum or more per direction of GJCF; maintain in the location and condition in which approved.
4. TPZ, including signage, shall be maintained in the location and condition in which approved.

Area 2: Canopy Protection

Contact GJCF if potential for tree limb damage exists and/or if pruning is needed for any clearance issues prior to performing work.

Notes

1. GJCF Tree Protection Specifications shall be followed throughout duration of work.
2. After TPZ is approved;
 - A. TPZ shall not be resized, modified, removed, or altered in any manner without prior written approval. TPZ shall be maintained in place as approved until removal is authorized by GJCF.
 - B. Entrance/access to the TPZ is not permitted without prior written approval from the GJCF.
 - C. No materials, debris, equipment, or site amenities shall be stored within the TPZ without prior written approval from the GJCF.
3. While TPZ fencing is in place, trees shall be deep-root watered at an interval of once every two weeks when temperatures are at or above 40 degrees F. Trees shall be watered at the rate of twenty (20) gallons per inch DBH. GJCF may ask for proof of watering.
4. Violation of TPZ or damage to protected trees is subject to penalty per City Ordinance.
5. Responsible party for tree removal or damage shall be responsible for lost value based on industry standard tree appraisal methods as determined by GJCF