

**MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
January 16, 2025**

1. Matthew Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Shirley DeYoung, Cory Redder and Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis and Council Member Brad Keeler.
3. Approval of Minutes:
Shirley DeYoung moved to accept and place on file the minutes of, December 12, 2024. Marsha Keeler supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

4. Parks:
Bob reported that it has been snowy and wet. He let the board know that the debt crew shoveled the river walk and the downtown area.

Sherwood Park Maintenance Report – Shirley DeYoung

Shirley reported that she did not go to the park today. When she was there last it was snowy and not too many people were using the park.

Pell Park Maintenance Report – Marsha Keeler

Marsha reported that she walked through the park tonight and there was lots of snow.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley

Matthew reported that it was snowy and wet. He noticed that the Christmas displays and lights were taken down.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Cory Redder

Cory reported that the park was snowy. He noticed someone had hit the fence in the dog park and it was bent.

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Bob Nieuwenhuis

Bob/Todd reported that the park is snowy and wet.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Bunny LaDuke

Bunny reported that she is still bummed that we don't have any Christmas decorations in this park.

Riverwalk, Band Shell & CBD Maintenance Report – Cory Redder

Cory reported that he did not have anything to report.

5. New Business:
 - A. Annual Meeting: The board decided to go over a portion of the 5-year recreation plan.
There was a long discussion over the 5-year plan.
 1. There is an idea that Justin and Bob are working on to put a surface on the trestle bridge. More information will come at a later date.
 2. There are two new picnic tables in Hicks Park.
 3. There is a fence in front of Pell Park to help separate the park from M-89.
 4. Bunny will check with the Chula Vista group to see if they can donate for the pollinator garden.
6. Open Business:
None.
7. Public Comments:
None.
8. Staff Comments:
None.

9. Chairman's Report:

Matthew asked if we could start the flower planting day back up. Bob let the board know that there are several reasons we don't want to do that anymore. It's hard to pick a date because you never know how the weather will be. We never know how many people will volunteer. We usually have to replant the areas that are planted by the public. Also, we have cut back on a lot of the beds to help bring the cost down for this program. Bob suggested we do a park cleanup day instead. The board liked that idea.

We will try to figure out a day in May and have it put on the city website and Facebook to advertise.

10. Commissioners' Comments:

Arbor Day was discussed and the board voted to nominate E.J. Hart for this year's event. Bunny LaDuke made a motion and Shirley DeYoung supported it. The board voted and it was unanimous. The library wants to be part of this. We already put an order in for the seedlings for April 2025. More information to come.

11. Items for next Agenda:

1. Pollinator Garden to be put back on the agenda.
2. Park Cleanup day.
3. It was suggested that we have quarterly meetings instead of meetings every month. This was not favorable but will be discussed further at a later meeting.

12. Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 5 PM.

13. Adjournment:

Marsha Keeler moved to adjourn the meeting. Shirley DeYoung supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Pickett