

**MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
February 13th, 2025**

1. Matthew Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Bunny LaDuke, Shirley DeYoung, Cory Redder and Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis. Absent: Council Member Brad Keeler and Marsha Keeler.
3. Approval of Minutes:
Shirley moved to accept and place on file the minutes of January 16, 2025. Cory Redder supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

4. Parks:
Bob reported that:
 1. We have lots of snow
 2. There was a snowball softball event in Kenyon Park over the weekend they left a mess so Bob reached out to them.
They will clean up after themselves next year.

Sherwood Park Maintenance Report – Shirley DeYoung
Shirley reported that there was nothing to report.

Pell Park Maintenance Report – Marsha Keeler
Marsha was absent so nothing to report.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley
Matthew reported that there was nothing to report.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Cory Redder
Cory reported that there was nothing to report.

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Bob Nieuwenhuis
Bob/Brad reported that there was nothing to report.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Bunny LaDuke
Bunny reported that there was nothing to report.

Riverwalk, Band Shell & CBD Maintenance Report – Cory Redder
Cory reported that there was nothing new to report.

5. New Business:
 - A. Pollinator garden
At our last meeting it was decided that we would talk about the ideas to have a pollinator garden. There was a small discussion and it was decided that we would propose to put it in front of the DPW/WR building with a new sign. We will be discussing the plants, the design and get a price to take to council for an approval. Hopefully we can get it done this spring/summer.
 - B. Park Clean Up Day:
At the last meeting we talked about doing a spring cleanup day instead of the flower planting day. There was a small discussion and a few ideas about letting the school know in case there were kids that wanted to get there community service done. We will just start on one park this year and see how it goes for the future. This year we will start with Hicks Park. We will need to come up with a date depending on the weather.
 - C. Suggested quarterly meetings instead of monthly:
At the last meeting it was suggested that we go from monthly meetings to quarterly. It was discussed in this meeting and it was decided to keep our monthly meetings unless we don't have anything for an agenda then we would cancel but that would be a case by case decision.

6. Open Business:

A. Arbor Day:

There was a small discussion about honoring E.J. Hart for this year's Arbor Day. Bunny had reached out to the library and they are very much on board with partnering with the City for this. Cheryl also talked to Joe at the library and the date is April 25, 2025 he will talk to his staff and figure out what time will work. Cheryl will reach out to E.J.'s family and see if they are good with this. We also want to order a plaque to be placed at the library and just add names each year of those who we will honor. There will be more information coming soon.

7. Public Comments:

Terry Pickett came to the meeting and had suggested that if we had quarterly meetings instead of monthly it would make the quarterly meetings a lot longer just to catch up.

8. Staff Comments:

None.

9. Chairman's Report:

None.

10. Commissioners' Comments:

None.

11. Items for Next Agenda:

Arbor Day and the pollinator garden cost/plan/design ideas.

12. Next Meeting:

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

13. Adjournment:

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Pickett