

**MINUTES  
CITY OF PLAINWELL  
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION  
April 13, 2017**

1. Justin Burchett called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Sandy Lamorandier, Bunny LaDuke, Justin Burchett, Marsha Keeler. Absent: Todd Overhuel, Marcus Taylor. Also attending: Economic Development Manager Denise Siegel. Public Works Superintendent Rick Updike is on vacation.
3. Approval of Minutes:  
Sheryl noted that no action was taken on the February minutes at the March meeting, due to lack of a quorum at the meeting.

***Marsha Keeler moved to accept and place on file the minutes and summary of February 12, 2017. Sandy Lamorandier supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.***

Sandy noted that, since the March meeting did not have a quorum, the record kept is actually just conversational notes and does not require acceptance.

4. Parks:  
Sherwood  
A: Park Maintenance Report - Marsha Keeler  
Marsha reported that the park has been too cold for much activity and was under water Monday from the Kalamazoo River being so high.

Pell

A: Park Maintenance Report - Bunny LaDuke  
Bunny reported that Pell was also under water in the lower section.

Hicks

A: Park Maintenance Report - Todd Overhuel  
Todd was not present. Bunny asked if she could trade oversight of Pell Park for Hicks Park. This met with consensus approval, and Sandy volunteered to report on Pell until Todd can come to the meetings again, since she walks it every day on the way to work.

Bunny asked about the city's liability in case of accidents on city property; Sandy gave a brief overview of governmental immunity and responsibility.

Cook

A: Park Maintenance Report - Justin Burchett  
Justin reported that the park has been quiet due to bad weather.

Matthew reported that he is working on new drawings of the dog park from an elevated viewpoint. The pictures provided by the city did not give him the angles that he need to create the focal points but he has a friend who owns a drone and is willing to take more pictures for him in the near future.

Kenyon

A: Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley  
Matthew reported that the softball people dragged the infield and the diamonds. Denise is working on quotes for the dugout fences from the new fence company that just moved into the former Plainwell Garden Center building.

Darrow

A: Park Maintenance Report - Sandy Lamorandier  
Sandy reported that Darrow is close to being underwater.

Riverwalk Park \ Band Shell \ CBD

A: Park Maintenance Report - Marcus Taylor  
Marcus was not present. Commissioners noted that the Riverwalk is underwater; Sheryl noted that the DPW set barricades at the M-89 and N. Main underpasses because they were submerged.

5. New Business

None.

6. Open Business

A. Dog Park update

Denise reported that the pop can drive brought in over \$900, and that the high school volunteers who hauled and redeemed the cans were awesome. The committee has a number of other events in the works.

B. Park Reservations, Rules, Permit, Signage

Commissioners discussed aspects of practical application for various rules under consideration. They will review the latest draft and submit suggestions for Justin to incorporate.

C. Plainwell Auto Landscape Update

None.

D. Arbor Day

Plainwell will celebrate Arbor Day on Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM in Sherwood Park. The honoree this year will be Joseph Dorgan, who was a former mayor and business owner, long-time resident and strong community supporter in Plainwell.

Commissioners discussed the difficulty of arranging for students to perform at the ceremony, due to a policy change that now prohibits them being bussed to such events, and that most available planting spaces are too far for them to walk. It was suggested that in future we contact area community groups, such as the Sweet Adelines, about performing.

7. Public Comments

None.

8. Staff Comments

Sheryl noted that the contractor has started work on the pickle ball courts this week. He power-washed the courts, filled the crack and set the brackets for the posts. He cannot work on coatings until the ground temperature is warmer.

9. Chairman's Report

None.

10. Commissioners' Comments

Bunny asked about the procedure for making corrections to the city's web page, as she noticed names need correction. Denise will take care of it.

Bunny confirmed that the Chula Vista Garden Club will plant the bridge baskets on Thursday, May 25 beginning about 9AM, and invited Commissioners and others to participate.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, May 11, 2017 at 5 PM.

12. Adjournment

***Sandy Lamorandier moved to adjourn the meeting. Marsha Keeler supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.***

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,  
Sheryl Gluchowski  
Deputy Clerk

DRAFT