

**MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
February 16, 2023**

1. Bunny LaDuke called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Shirley DeYoung, Cory Redder and Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis and Council Member Todd Overhuel. Absent Matthew Bradley.
3. Approval of Minutes:
Shirley DeYoung moved to accept and place on file the minutes of, January 12, 2023. Bob Nieuwenhuis supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.
4. Parks:
Bob reported that the grant for the first portion of the national fitness space in Sherwood Park in the amount of 40,000.00 was approved. Denise has the final meeting tomorrow then the DNR grant process will get started. There were a few suggestions on maybe putting up shrubs along the playground area to keep the children safe also the fence along the river would have to be extended. This probably won't go up till next year. Bob said we weren't doing much with the parks because of it being winter.
Sherwood Park Maintenance Report – Shirley DeYoung
Shirley reported that she drove by the park and it looks fine.

Pell Park Maintenance Report – Marsha Keeler
Marsha reported that there wasn't anything going on in the park and it looks fine.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley
Matthew was unable to make the meeting.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Cory Redder
Cory reported that lots of people and dogs were using the park with the nice weather.

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Bob Nieuwenhuis
Bob/Todd reported that that there was a snowball softball tournament over the weekend. Todd mentioned that part of the bench was out and needed some attention.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Bunny LaDuke
Bunny reported that the park looked fine. Cory mentioned that he saw people fishing.

Riverwalk, Band Shell & CBD Maintenance Report – Cory Redder
Cory reported that nothing much was happening there. He did notice kids skateboarding.
5. New Business
A. Shirley shared some print outs of flower meadow ideas. The board agreed that we need to kill the grass and weeds before we plant any flowers.
6. Open Business
A. Bunny wanted to continue our discussion of the small pollinator gardens that we can put in front of the DPW and DPS. We might be able to find a few businesses to donate money to buy the flowers. Bob said the DPW would help get the ground area ready and pour cement when we come up with a design plan. Bunny suggested that we apply for some grants also. She has written grants before and said she could do this.
There was also discussion about renewing the monarch butterfly project from last year. Everyone seemed to be onboard with these ideas. Bob said we could use the plastic we got for the ice rink this year because we didn't do the rink because of the weather.

It was also mentioned that there are grants for railroad areas like our trestle to make that safer and dog friendly.

7. Public Comments

None.

8. Staff Comments

Cheryl mentioned to Bunny about the city buying some seedlings from the Chula Vista club. Bunny will check to see how much and what kind of trees they will have.

9. Chairman's Report

None.

10. Commissioners' Comments

None.

11. Items For Next Agenda

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday March 16, 2023 at 5 PM.

13. Adjournment

Shirley DeYoung 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 5:59 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Pickett