

**MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
January 11, 2018**

1. Bunny LaDuke called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Sandy Lamorandier and Tom Belco. Absent: Gina Berry, Matthew Bradley and Todd Overhuel. Also attending: Public Works Superintendent Rick Updike.
3. Approval of Minutes:

Sandra Lamorandier moved to accept and place on file the minutes and summary of November 16, 2017. Marsha Keeler supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

4. New Business

A. Veterans Memorial Expansion – John Roggow

John Roggow and Dick Lubeck were present representing the Friends of the Greater Plainwell Veterans Memorial. John noted that they had contracted Troy Stefl of LDW 2.0 to devise concepts for expanding the Veterans Memorial. They chose Preliminary Concept B as the plan they preferred. They are seeking concept approval so that they may begin raising the estimated \$30,000 - \$40,000 needed for the project. Some aspects are an absolute must-have and some are optional.

John distributed copies of the concept to commissioners. He noted that one memorial tree at the site is in poor condition and needs to be replaced. They have contacted the man's parents, who support replacing the tree and want to contribute something. The Friends will continue to work with them going forward.

Their vision is to create a tranquil setting for visitors, with paved walkways for pedestrians, and a paved seating area. There is a large tree at the northeast corner of the Memorial that they would like to remove because it is in the way of the planned sidewalk and because it litters debris down onto the Memorial that creates a mess and stains the concrete. They would replace that with another tree sited out of the way. The center evergreen in the trio near the memorial is not thriving and they would like to remove it, leaving the other two.

They noted that the nearby Harry Stout memorial bench is deteriorating. The Cancer Bed is not in the project area, nor is the nearby shore area that is used as a canoe/kayak landing. The Class of 45 tree is deteriorating; Sandy noted that the City may need to replace it because it was provided by the city and has not done well from the beginning.

John noted that the Friends feel the renovation will help channel foot and bike traffic around, rather than through, the Memorial, as well as providing much-needed room for memorial bricks. The area originally allocated for bricks is full.

Sandra Lamorandier moved to support the Friends of the Greater Plainwell Veterans Memorial's Preliminary Concept B plans for expansion of the Veterans Memorial, as presented. Marsha Keeler supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

John noted that the Rotary has volunteered to help considerably with the fund-raising.

B. Arbor Day 2018

Sheryl asked for a volunteer to work on providing a program for the 2018 Arbor Day celebration. We typically work with a local school or youth group, and they can sing, do a play, read poetry, or

whatever they would like as an Arbor Day program. Sandy noted that Arbor Day falls in or adjacent to Earth Week, so it ties in nicely. So far, the city has not been approached by anyone suggesting an honoree. Rick suggested that we could honor Deborah Harrington's late husband Dale. She donated this year's city Christmas tree. Tom volunteered to work on providing the entertainment for Arbor day.

C. Commissioners' Choosing Parks for 2018

All Commissioners chose to continue with the same parks in 2018. Tom will fill the vacancy at Cook Park.

5. Parks:

There were no park reports.

6. Open Business

A. Review of Flower Order 2018

The Commissioners supported the plans drafted for the 2018 Flower Season. Marsha asked if the city could provide cameras to help protect the flowers from vandals.

B. Sculpture Bed Plantings

Sheryl noted that the sculpture bed continues to have a moisture problem because of poor drainage, and asked if Bunny might have a connection to a Master Gardener with the Rain Garden Certification, and if the Commissioners felt that a rain garden might be a solution. Bunny does know Rain Garden Certified Master Gardeners and would be willing to approach them.

Attendees discussed options for addressing the problem. Rick noted that it is not easy because it sets under the sculpture, which is supported only by three Sonitubes filled with concrete. The city could remove all the plantings and soil, have a contractor core drill several places through the concrete, then fill it with large rocks. It might fix the problem.

7. Public Comments

None.

8. Staff Comments

Sandy and Rick both welcomed Tom to the Parks & Trees Commission.

9. Chairman's Report

None.

10. Commissioners' Comments

Tom stated that he will do his best for the Parks & Trees Commission.

11. Items For Next Agenda/Next Meeting

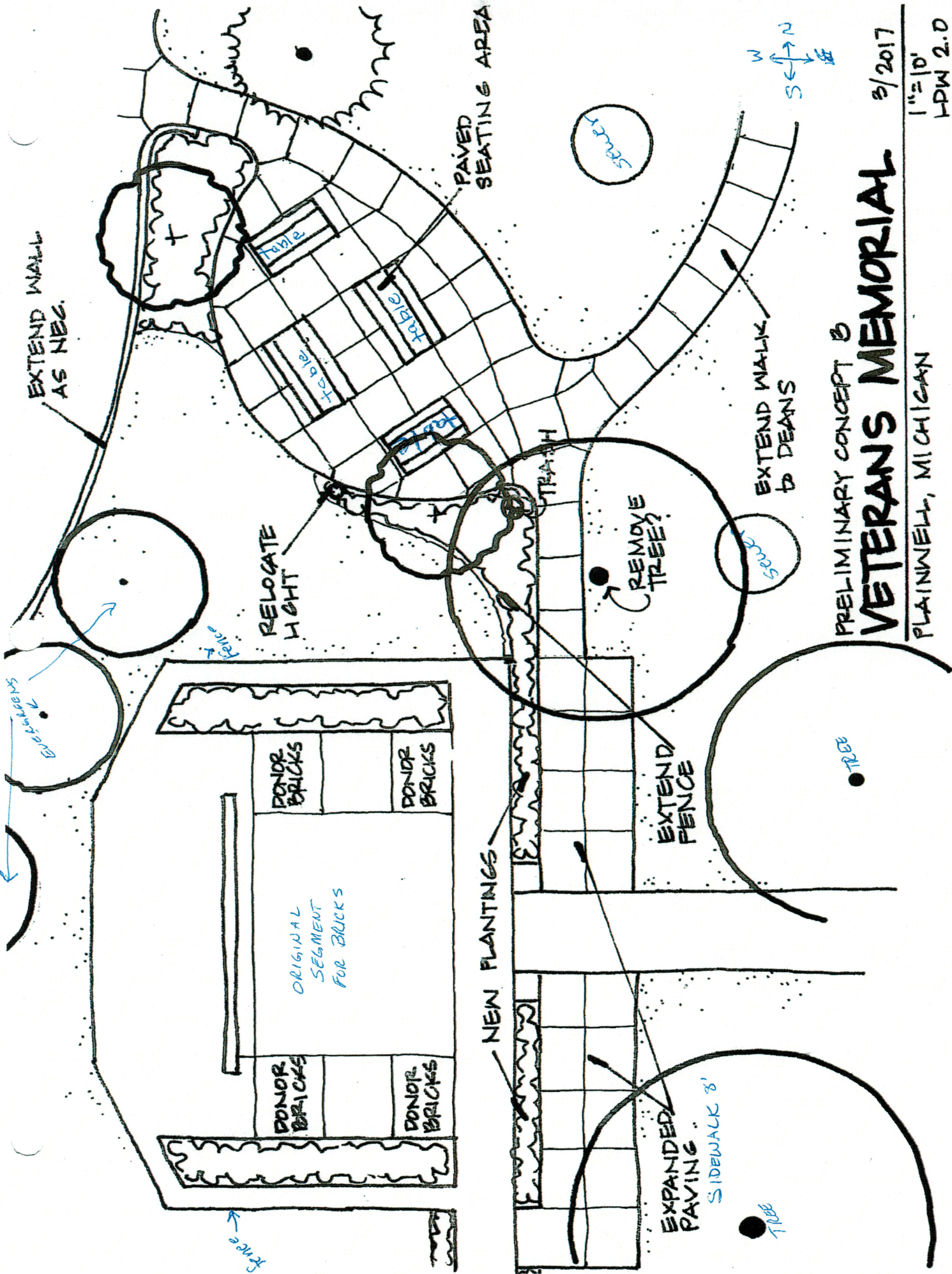
The next meeting will be Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 5 PM.

12. Adjournment

Sandra 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 5:56 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Sheryl Gluchowski
Deputy Clerk



PRELIMINARY CONCEPT OF
VETERANS MEMORIAL

PLAINVILLE, MICHIGAN

3/2017

1"=10'
HPW 2.0