

**MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
May 16, 2024**

1. Matthew Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:06 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Shirley DeYoung, Cory Redder and Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis. Absent: Council Member Todd Overhuel.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Shirley DeYoung moved to accept and place on file the minutes of, April 11, 2024. Bob Nieuwenhuis supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

4. Parks:

Bob reported that the DPW put new playground mulch at a few of the parks. Upper Cook Park is closed due to construction. We will be painting lines at the basketball courts in Sherwood Park. The timber tie area at Sherwood Park has been taken care of per board's request. As far as Darrow Park we are getting that donated land soon to add to the park. The doors on the park restrooms will be painted over soon. We have started picking up the flowers from the greenhouse this week and they look really good.

Sherwood Park Maintenance Report – Shirley DeYoung

Shirley reported that she was happy about the retaining wall getting fixed. Marsha and Shirley with Don Reeves help got mulch put in and it looks great.

Pell Park Maintenance Report – Marsha Keeler

Marsha reported that the park is in good shape. We still need some more mulch for the beds. The guys will get that soon.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley

Matthew reported that he drove by the park and it looked good. Lois Heuchert was at the meeting and she added some information that she had heard about Hicks Park and a fire pit coming and a book library. The Parks board had not heard about this. Bob explained it as a thought for Brooks Plaza and may go into Hicks Park someday if we get the funding. It wasn't talked about with the board because it's not anything set in stone especially with no funding. The place in Brooks Plaza might not work because that's where we put the Christmas tree.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Cory Redder

Cory reported that lower cook looks fine. The dog park and pickle ball area are very busy. He noted some concern about pickle ball players parking on the old basketball court so kids couldn't use the court.

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Bob Nieuwenhuis

Bob/Todd reported that we mowed the park.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Bunny LaDuke

Bunny reported that the park looks good and there were lots of birds. She also noted that she was happy the guys brought a new flag and hose to the Blue Star Banner Area. They also want to put a new tree to replace the other tree that died.

River walk, Band Shell & CBD Maintenance Report – Cory Redder

Cory reported that these areas look fine.

5. New Business:

- A. We are getting playground equipment from Cooper Schools and we asked the board to see where they want to put it. It was decided to put it in Upper Cook Park.

6. Open Business:

- A. We let the board know that we got the grant money \$6148.80 for the dock area for Darrow Park. We have not ordered anything yet. There was a light discussion about us applying for other grants to stop erosion along the river in Pell Park. Lois and Bunny will get together with Justin and Denise to see about getting this grant applied for soon.

B. We talked about the concerns about Upper Cook Park getting put back to the way it was after the construction is done. Bob assured the board that it was part of the plan for that to get done.

7. Public Comments:
None.

8. Staff Comments:
Cheryl apologized to the board for the email not getting sent for the Arbor Day event. We will do better next year. It was suggested that we honor Jim Higgs next year not with a tree but a proclamation and have his family come.

9. Chairman's Report:
None.

10. Commissioners' Comments:
Shirley DeYoung mentioned that she loved having the flowers come already planted in the baskets.

11. Items For Next Agenda:
None.

12. Next Meeting
The next meeting will be Thursday, June 13, 2024 at 5 PM.

13. Adjournment:

Matthew Bradley 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 6:20 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Pickett