

**MINUTES
CITY OF PLAINWELL
PARKS & TREES COMMISSION
August 11, 2022**

1. Matthew Bradley called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.
2. Roll Call: Present: Matthew Bradley, Marsha Keeler, Bunny LaDuke, Shirley DeYoung, Cory Redder, Todd Overhuel and Public Works Superintendent Bob Nieuwenhuis.

3. Approval of Minutes:

Shirley DeYoung moved to accept and place on file the minutes of July 14, 2022. Cory Redder supported the motion. On voice vote, motion carried unanimously.

4. Parks:

Bob reported that at the council meeting this past Monday a couple came in to ask for permission to play at the Band shell on Mondays during the car show at Dean's for entertainment. Sheryl, Shirley and Marsha are in the process of ordering the flowers for our next year's planting. Our playground equipment is getting pretty old so we are trying to make minor repairs to keep it up. A question was asked if we could do fund raising? Bob said we could have Denise check into this. Our Arbor Day tree that was planted at Starr School in memory of Tim Roush isn't doing too well. The school will evaluate it and order a new tree if this tree dies.

Sherwood Park Maintenance Report – Shirley DeYoung

Shirley reported that she drove by and the park looks great. She said there were lots of people using the park.

Pell Park Maintenance Report – Marsha Keeler

Marsha reported that the park looks good.

Hicks Park Maintenance Report – Matthew Bradley

Matthew reported that the park looks good and it got a good review from his great nephews that were here from out of town. He was concerned about the erosion by the river. He suggested we use a polymeric sand that he used for his own patio pavers.

Cook Park Maintenance Report – Cory Redder

Cory reported that he wasn't able to make it to the park to check it out today. He mentioned how the weather has been great and there seemed to be a lot of people using the pickle ball courts lately. They have 400 members to the group now. He said he thought the dog park stays busy too.

Kenyon Park Maintenance Report – Bob Nieuwenhuis and Todd Overhuel

Todd reported that the softball fields were unplayable but realized no one is using them so it wouldn't benefit doing all the work to fix them up unless we get some interest from the public to use them. He asked about some advertisement boards that were put up a long time ago with available space to sell for some income for the parks.

Darrow Park Maintenance Report – Bunny LaDuke

Bunny reported that she had nothing new to report.

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

Cory reported that there are still boards on the boardwalk that need to be repaired. Bob said we were looking into some ideas on how to fix those areas that are worn out. Bob let the board know that we sprayed for bees on the trestle bridge. Cory also noticed a bent railing on the trestle bridge.

5. New Business

- A. We have meetings coming up for the Recreation 5 year plan. They will be before the next 5 meetings of the Parks and Trees. Williams and Works will be there to answer questions and get this wrapped up. A sheet of paper was handed out with the dates and what they have planned.

6. Open Business
 - A. The staff handed out copies of the results from the Recreation Five Year Plan. There was some light discussion about this with the board members.
7. Public Comments
None.
8. Staff Comments: The picnic table that was moved in Cook Park was moved back to the pavilion.
9. Chairman's Report
None.
10. Commissioners' Comments
Bunny had a few things to talk about. The first was a Purple Loose Stripe weed that is very invasive and needs to be taken out. The second was how the Monarch Butterflies and now a threatened species and the Black Swallow Tail is hopefully going to be the State butterfly. Bunny also told the board about an event that will be taking place at the library to hand out milkweed seeds to help bring the butterflies around. Todd Overhuel suggested that we take some pictures of the butterflies and put on the city Facebook page to bring some awareness. There was also some small conversations going on between the board members about the old roses that were in front of the paper mill that were moved to the DPW. Bob mentioned that next year we won't be putting bridge flowers on the main street bridge because of construction.
11. Items For Next Agenda
None.
12. Next Meeting
The next meeting will be Thursday, September 15th 2022 at 5 PM. Also the Recreation Board meeting will meet from 3:30 till 5:00 for those who can make it.

13. Adjournment

Bob Nieuwenhuis 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 6:16 PM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
Cheryl Pickett