

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
February 16, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, February 16, 2009. Co-Chairman Kovach called the meeting to order at 8:08 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Smith, Kovach, Fugate, Evans  
Absent: Kempton, Mayor Piskura (excused)  
Attending: Concerned Citizens

\*Motion by Fugate to accept the minutes of the February 16, 2009 meeting as presented. Yeas All.

***CORRESPONDENCE: None.***

***PRESENTATIONS: None.***

***PARK SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:*** Co-chairman Kovach advised there is maintenance going on at the building and there is some grant processes that Bill Gardner discussed at the last meeting that are in process.

***RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT:*** Mrs. Kempton is working on upcoming Easter Hunt.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

***Designated Skate Areas: None.***

***Memorial Park: None.***

***Neighborhood Parks: None.***

***Lakefront Parks: None.***

**GRANTS, GIFTS & AWARDS:**

a.) ***Brookside Bike Trail/Covered Bridge – None.***

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mr. Evans advised I have 2 grant applications that I found on line for playground equipment that I don't know what to do with so I will give them to you. One is through Home Depot. Mr. Jonathan Wright stated that is through Kaboom isn't it, I was going to talk to Bill Gardner about that, they are accepting applications for playful cities right now. If you get registered with Kaboom as a playful city then you are kind of open to a pipeline of certain monies for a certain number of years. Chairman Smith asked what is up with that designation? Is it internal club or just an association or is it a customer base list? Mr. Wright answered it is just an application process really, you got to kind of submit an air-tight application to be approved by it. East Cleveland is a Kaboom playful city. Chairman Smith stated they have a couple

of internal neighborhood parks though that have been redone in the last 8 or 9 months if I am not mistaken. They had a couple community builds and they did it like we did as a community not too long ago with recycle. Mr. Fugate advised they also have some pretty big parks in East Cleveland too. Chairman Smith advised I will funnel this to Mr. Gardner, we will get this to Bill downstairs. Mr. Wright advised with Kaboom I don't really know how much I have to tell you. It is an application process, they are a non-profit organization and their mission is to build a playground within walking distance of every community in the United States. They have got a lot of ties to corporations, a lot of ties in Washington DC and they are very well connected. They do a lot of work, it is an application process. There is 3 types of grants that they do; one – U PLAY and for that they give you \$2500.00 monetary donation and with the U PLAY you can choose basically which ever playground vendor you want to go with but they give you a time line when the equipment has to be purchased and installed then there is the U PLAY that is kind of the same ordeal with the time line and your choice of where you are getting the equipment and that is \$7500.00 and there is the PLAYFUL CITY which is another grant application process and it is kind of their big one and if you win that they will have Home Depot and some of the donors pitch in money and they will playground of upwards of \$30,000 to \$40,000 playgrounds and the way they do it I believe is the city would put the money up front for the equipment and then Kaboom gets invoiced and they reimburse the city. I believe that is the way it works but I might be mistaken. Kaboom when they do the large playground builds, it is always play world systems that they use. It is kind of like a party, they bring 30 or 40 Kaboomers out and they want you to get 300 people from the community. A lot of times they will get in touch with local sports organizations and bring athletes out and stuff. I know the one that was in Fameco's Foundation in Cleveland. They had Braland Edwards out there and he was helping build, things like that. Chairman Smith stated I am going to put your name for Bill, maybe you can enlighten him a little bit. Mr. Evans advised I have an employee that works at Home Depot and he is the one that turned me onto it just through a conversation one night and I wanted to make sure I got on line and tried to find out what I could on it.

Mr. Jonathon Wright asked in talking about next year, what is the feasibility of working in conjunction with the high school or middle school for open gym hours for basketball during these winter months – what would it take? Chairman Smith answered there is an internal basketball program that was Sheffield, Sheffield Lake Youth Basketball Association which was started as a non-profit by one of the members of the Park Board, at that time was Robert Palmer. Last year it was finally turned over to the school system, this is the first year it was turned over to the school system and it is an internal program now run by the schools. If you are looking for an additional basketball program, I am sure there is some age groups, is something that can be done. Jason is our liaison with the Sheffield, Sheffield Lake school system because he is actually a coach there. So anything that can be done to stream-line

communication or check with the program – Jason would be the one to go through. Mr. Wright advised I am not necessarily talking about youth, all ages? Chairman Smith advised talk to Jason. He is the liaison, each year they have different policies that the Board has because there is unions involved a lot of times, it can create conflicts of the interest between parties. Where one might consider something different or something else. I know we have run into that problem before with the school system which is one of the reasons we try to have better communication through Jason for the schools. There was a brief discussion. Mr. Fugate spoke with Mr. Wright regarding skate areas and equipment. Mr. Evans stated since we seem to rely almost entirely on grant money for everything we do, if we get money/I have never dealt with grants before so is there a time line once it is given to us that we have to use it by before we go to losing it. How much information do we need once we get the money? Chairman Smith answered they are not all the same, every grant is different – there is thousands and thousands of them. Mr. Kovach advised normally though, what you are suggesting is you almost have to have a project in line before you can apply for the grant. Your time line is already kind of hand-fed because your project – a lot of time there is engineering involved or something; a lot of preliminary costs and if you are not going to do the project then you are not going to spend that money. Therefore the project is going to be kind of an affect, if you don't have a project going – then more then likely you are not going to get grant money. Chairman Smith advised you also have to have a match, a lot of times in recreational grants in this arena are usually 50/50, you get some 80/20, you get some 75/25 – very rarely do you get 100% unconditional unless it is a gift from a foundation or a grant from some type of corporation and they just give you the money. But programs and grants are rated with usually like I said 50% of cash match and at that point and time we have to have a project that we are aware of, we have to have the allocated authorization to go after that type of project and go after that grant and then at the same time we have to kind of dictate some of the money for the match when we do apply for it. Each grant has its own different set of criteria and they call it methodology and what it is is the requirements; first of all it is who can apply, second is it is based on different things. There was a lengthy discussion on master plans, grants, requirements/restrictions, applications and processes. Mr. Evans asked about updating old maps and data. Chairman Smith advised that he has all of the data and property maps (copies). They are not like the zoning maps; a current drawn-up map of the park. There was a brief discussion on maps for parks. Chairman Smith advised legal maps are required for grant applications which were very general in the beginning (green space that needed mowed). Mr. Evans volunteered to play around with the computer on possible maps for parks. Mr. Wright advised the assistance he could give on maps. He asked if Board would like for him to manage information about grants, fund raisers and sales that he would come across? Chairman Smith answered to give to Mr. Gardner. Mr. Kovach advised submitting a brief list of copy

to them also. Mr. Wright advised would just give to Clerk Fantauzzi which would be forwarded to each Board member.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,

\*Motion by Fugate to adjourn at 8:56 PM. Yeas All.

**CLERK OF COMMITTEE AFFIRMATION:** This meeting of the City Committee of the City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio was held and conducted under all Rules and Regulations Governing The Sunshine Laws of the State of Ohio as they may apply. All meetings are recorded and available in Council's Offices.

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CLERK OF COUNCIL

*Kay Fantauzzi*

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COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

*Len Smith*

*and/or*

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ACTING CHAIRMAN

*Steve Kovach*

I, Kay Fantauzzi, duly appointed Clerk of Committee Of Sheffield Lake DO HEREBY CERTIFY that this is A true and exact copy of the Minutes of the Board Of February 16, 2009.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*