

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
April 20, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, April 20, 2009. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 8:13 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Smith, Kovach, Fugate, Evans, Kempton

Absent: Fugate, Mayor Piskura (excused)

Attending: Park Director Arendt, Grant Administrator Gardner, Concerned Citizens

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

***CORRESPONDENCE: Problems and recommendations for Sheffield Lake Park Board from Park Director Joe Arendt*** – Park Superintendent Arendt advised I submitted to the Board, we looked at all the parks; Jerry and I and made some recommendations as you can read here. I would like to see the parks put into pristine condition, it is going to take quite a bit of money. We have some fence problems, obviously there is dirt that needs to be filled. We need some clay on the in-field of some parks but if you read the report, it just depends on the funding that we get. Chairman Smith stated we will review these and look them over, do you need any immediate guidance on any specific issues that require our attention. Park Superintendent Arendt answered I think that we have to get some fill dirt which we can get from the bike path that we are going to start next week. We are going to start the bike path next week and Bill assures me that there is at least 6-inches of good top soil and we will have a lot of top soil so we can go ahead and do that, we need that right away. The in-fields of the baseball field, kids are going to be starting in another month or so and we really need to get some. Member Kempton stated they started because just Saturday, I yelled at some of the kids that were running through the backstop – through that hole at Ferndale Park because one caught right above his eyebrow. Park Superintendent Arendt advised Mr. Smith and I when he has the time, we can out there and I think we can address the situation on emergency needs at each individual park first and then concentrate on the other recommendations as we go which the fence to me would be an emergency. I would like to see some of the in-field clay replaced in some of the areas. Like at Ferndale, those 2 things have to be addressed first – broken pitchers mound is there, the rest of the bleachers we can stay with that at this point. Chairman Smith stated if I may Joe, I think what Jason was referring to is soccer has permitted the field for 08 and 09 at Guenther – the soccer league uses Guenther. Park Superintendent Arendt stated I was talking about Ferndale. Chairman Smith stated yes, just that top soil fill dirt that we are going to

use. I think you had said that there is a couple of areas that need fill dirt and I think that is what I brought up to Jerry. I wasn't trying to supersede your authority or your guidance or anything like that, it is just I didn't want it to get lost in the shuffle because soccer starts this week; it actually has already started and we are going to have a packed house down there on the weekends. Park Superintendent Arendt advised what you are saying then is we should concentrate on the damage of the chain link fences first and get Guenther Park as quickly as we can because of the soccer. Chairman Smith stated no, I guess what I was saying is if we get the top soil stripping then if we could just get some couple yards of dirt down there off into a corner where it can be put in some holes so that we don't have any injuries that's all. Park Superintendent Arendt answered we ordered some dirt even before we started and he is already putting down dirt that we ordered. That is being taken care of now, what I meant was the dirt that we are going to get from the bike path will fill a lot of the other areas that aren't in immediately. Now we did order I think 6 or 8 yards we ordered to fill up immediate spots. I think the best for us to do is anyone who is on the Board that has time to go to the parks with me so I can address the immediate needs. I know what I think is immediate but I don't know the activity of each park, like in other cities there may be one main park that really needs to be addressed and other parks are secondary. Where maybe just some activity for kids and it is not organized or whatever, so I need some guidance to go to the parks with somebody from the Board and say you know what this park is used 6 days a week and this park is used 2 days a week. Chairman Smith advised I can get with you and go over that, we have been trying to hook up and we just haven't been able to do that. Member Kempton stated the same with me, I mean I keep an eye on a lot of parks and I am involved with a lot more of the students – the Middle School students and the High School students then maybe some of the other guys, only because I coach the High School level and stuff like that. I can definitely get with you on which parks are really heavily used. Park Superintendent Arendt stated that is the most important thing then because all the recommendations here, every park needs everything that we have put here but the heavily used ones, we have to get to immediately. So a child doesn't run through an empty hole in a backstop and rip its head off. So we need to address those. So I will make the time anytime you guys can do it except tomorrow, we are going to Cleveland hoping to get some grant money. Member Kovach advised the thing here to was that this all was prompted by a request by Mr. Fugate to address Ferndale Park and Joe escalated that and just went through all the parks.

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

**PARK SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:** Park Superintendent Arendt advised tomorrow the graffiti will be taken care of – that is down at the boat launch. We fixed the pressure washer Friday, so that will be addressed tomorrow as today was cold and rainy and we didn't get a chance to do it. Chairman Smith advised if I could explain, our gas powered pressure washer was down to mechanical repairs which is why. Other wise it would have been handled a lot sooner. Park Superintendent

Arendt advised it was fixed Friday and it will be done tomorrow morning. Chairman Smith stated I see that a lot of the drift wood was taken out of the launch area. I also noticed that the water level is way up and has been all week. I remember somebody mentioned to me that it was way down not just a couple of weeks ago and now it is like wham. Member Evans stated at the last meeting I was talking about doing maps of the parks and I have gone through and they have all been measured, I just haven't found any compatible software that I can afford to buy to actually make maps out of the information I have. But when I was in all the parks, I wondered whether or not we have ever approached major league baseball for the NBA for money to improve our basketball courts and our baseball diamonds because they do big PR campaigns every time they are on TV about they want to get involved in communities. Chairman Smith stated they all have charitable outreaches that we can apply for, all of them – it is not just them, it is 5013c's, it is foundations, it is all over. The basketball courts is a left over issue that we need to address, that was on-going from before actually going long before when the volleyball courts were an issue. We can address that, bring it if you want and we will put it on the agenda and then we can go from there. I think Jason didn't you want a costs analysis last year. Member Kempton answered I brought it tonight. Park Superintendent Arendt advised Mr. Gardner has already submitted to the visitors bureau, all the parks and all the information and all the sizes and everything. So we would be on their site, I think you were involved in that too, weren't you? Chairman Smith answered yes. But what Mike is talking is a little different. But yes you are right, all our locations. Mr. McCullough stated ask Joe thought where the open and close sign is for Memorial Park? Chairman Smith answered it was put up there. Mr. McCullough stated I know, I know don't need to know what time it opens and closes but everybody needs. Chairman Smith stated it was directed to be moved too after it was put up that way and I called you. Mr. McCullough stated it is still there. Chairman Smith stated that was the old Parks Director. Mr. McCullough joked he left and quit. Chairman Smith stated that was definitely under Mr. Gardner's. Mr. McCullough stated he got it up, I can't believe he put it there – I said Jerry I don't need to know what time it opens and closes. Member Evans advised I can try and look up as much information as possible, I just don't know where to go once I get past their official website. Chairman Smith advised well we can do a costs analysis and when we fill out a grant application with an estimate. Like Jason had done when we went through this 2 years ago. Member Kempton advised no this way October 2008, I re-did it. Grant Administrator Gardner asked so what exactly do you want on the parks as far as drawings, they exist now. Member Evans advise well a couple of meetings ago I just wanted to see official maps and we couldn't come with any. Grant Administrator Gardner answered I have got the aerial from April of last year that shows, all we have to do is take a park and blow it up to 8-1/2 X 11 and you have got all the lines and property ownership – whatever you want on it. Member Evans advised I did go on the internet and I saw a satellite photos. Chairman Smith advised he is just looking for square footage area

map. Member Evans advised my main interest here was since everything we do has to get grant money. Chairman Smith advised not everything but we try to. Member Evans continued I am sort of wondering how we make proposals to people if we don't have visuals to show them what we have versus what we are trying to do with the money we are trying to get. Especially if it is going to be a public thing where we go to the community and go we have grant money, what would you like us to do with the parks and everybody sits there and goes I don't even know what the parks look like or show me what the parks look like versus what this picnic pavilion is that you want to put in it. Grant Administrator Gardner advised if you guys want to pay \$10.00 I can get a map of each park. Mr. McCullough advised there was one meeting of the Planning Commission over 6 months and in that one meeting Mrs. Belaska has advised that she has the entire Sheffield Lake on CD because she is a operating engineer and she has access to survey maps and everything. I am sure if you got a hold of Debbie Belaska she would get you a CD. Chairman Smith advised see we are not talking about actual land survey maps, what he is talking is he just wanted a square footage diagram for placement. Mr. McCullough advised if you have the actual survey, it is going to tell you how many acres. Chairman Smith advised but it doesn't have where the swingset is placed and it doesn't have where the basketball court is placed, etc. That is the difference of what he was referring to. Mr. McCullough stated but he could take it and impose it over top of it versus downloading from google earth. Member Evans advised if I had an official outline, now I can take my dimensions and drop them in. There was a brief discussion on mentioned earlier, Grant Administrator Gardner can get you the same thing for \$10.00. Member Evans stated the main reason I want this whether it is valuable to anybody else or not is I personally would like to put a 5-year plan together for I would like to see the parks turn into in 5 years and I would like to make it as visual a presentation as possible. Grant Administrator Gardner stated we can use the 2009 aerial which shows merry-go-rounds and everything on it. It doesn't have to be an 8-1/2 X 11, you can make it an 11 X 17 too. Member Evans asked can I give you my email and have you just email all this to me. Chairman Smith answered you are probably going to have to go to Mr. Gardner and just get it from him. Grant Administrative Gardner answered I can get the thing copied, their in color. 8-1/2 X 11's I know are \$1.00 but I don't know about 11 X 17. There was a brief discussion on the maps which Mr. Gardner showed one of the boat launch. Park Superintendent Arendt advised I will prepare a report for you.

**RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT:** Mr. Kempton reported the Easter Egg Hunt went really well, we had it at the Tennyson Elementary this year just in case of bad weather but it was beautiful. We had close to 200 kids there which is the largest group we have had since we have been here and it went really, really good. Chairman Smith stated tell her thank you, a job well done.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Designated Skate Areas:** Mr. Kempton advised nothing different from the last meeting, still trying to work in different angles and just get things with Jonathan Wright. He has given us a lot of great information and stuff like that and we are still working with him on skate areas. Mr. McCullough advised you guys need to come up with some dates that we can look at by next month and I can say yes or no, try to make them like on Monday nights or Tuesday nights. Try to get with the Council people, maybe Council at Large and just come up with dates and what we will try to do is one in each ward/couple in June and couple in August. Chairman Smith asked fund raisers right? Mr. McCullough answered well not even a fund raiser, just something to help the community. If it raises funds, if people want to put a donation in the thing and you want to use it towards your skate areas then that is fine. The fact is we got to get the ball rolling on something to get people involved back into the community and you got to use parks. I like the idea you guys were talking about pavilions, I really think parks need pavilions. Chairman Smith advised we know shade/pavilions and shade, you can't have people in the parks if they don't have shade. Mr. McCullough stated how many churches do we have that have church picnics and they go somewhere else to have a picnic. Chairman Smith stated we are all on the same page Kerry. Mr. McCullough stated I know just come up with some dates and try to make them on Mondays or Tuesdays. Chairman Smith stated that is where you can provide some additional services and help. Mr. McCullough stated that is where I could do it. There was a brief discussion on different parks and lights. Mr. Kempton stated kind of on the same thing, I am trying to get something going with the whole soccer on June 7<sup>th</sup> which is a Sunday – it is the last one. Mr. McCullough stated not going to happen not with me, I don't think so. Mr. Kempton stated that is why I kept calling you last fall. I am going to request to put in a small carnival at Guenther Park and it is the last soccer day for all the youth kids. There was a brief discussion on events. Mr. McCullough stated get a hold of me, I will help you out. There was a brief discussion on the proposal and scheduling dates.

**Memorial Park:** Mr. McCullough stated the light, don't worry about the light because since we remodeled the inside of the house, our bedroom has moved. Chairman Smith recalled on the request for the sign and advised the sign went up in the wrong place. He asked Park Superintendent Arendt to handle that and have Jerry get that into the right place.

**Neighborhood Parks: None.**

**Lakefront Parks:** Chairman Smith advised I noticed that the security cameras are getting handled. Park Superintendent Arendt advised no, they are working on them. There was a brief discussion on alternative equipment.

### **GRANTS, GIFTS & AWARDS:**

- a.) **Brookside Bike Trail/Covered Bridge** – Grant Administrator Gardner advised Joe had mentioned the bike trail is going to begin next week. We have \$50,000.00 in cash from Solid Waste grant and we have around \$17,000.00 from the CDBG

grant for the bathroom at the boat launch. We have applied for \$28,000.00 for the bathroom at the boat launch through ODNR and that would still require that we come up with some money but it is around \$5000 or \$6000.00 for the bathroom. That is a pre-built concrete bathroom with his and her's bathrooms and a sink and outside water put approximately where you see the water spicket. Chairman Smith advised which the utilities for our future bathroom were put in when the parking lot was put in. Grant Administrator Gardner advised we also applied for a kiosk between the telephone pole and that bathroom, it would be an led and television – multi media system for information purposes. That was \$50,000.00 – something like that and we applied for 80% of that. I don't know whether that is going to happen or not. The only thing that I would bring up is that we actually have an 11<sup>th</sup> park and we might want to start thinking about it being that it is Sheffield Village park and it is there. Now we are in court over it but assuming that we are victorious, we might want to think about doing something with that. Like turning it into a beach or something since it is there. That would be one park that is of interest, the other thing is that Metro Parks got the land on Harris Road all the way to Idlewood and that is potentially going to get a rail crossing out of it. I applied for that and I don't know whether we are going to get it or not but in the long run we will get it because it is a park and it is almost required – the railroad can't stop that. That is an 80/20 grant and it is at least 100 grand. Chairman Smith advised the information on that will be coming from Metro Parks when as they move along in the time line. Grant Administrator Gardner advised it looks like 2010 for that stuff. That has bike trails which line up with our bike trails and go all the way to the railroad tracks. Chairman Smith advised a pedestrian bike trail to the school systems to tie in the inter-city bike trails with the school systems. There was a brief discussion on the multi-jurisdictional grant which was applied for that consisted of the Village of Sheffield, City of Sheffield Lake, Lorain County Metro Parks and the Sheffield/Sheffield Lake School System (northeast loop) and the multiple funding sources and possible proposals.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

***R1 height requirement; eliminate from parks (1133.02 & 03)*** – There was a brief discussion on code which included a \*Motion by Smith that the City of Sheffield Lake Park Board agree and support to the changing of 1133.02 and 1133.03. Yeas All.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee, \*Motion by Evans to adjourn at 8:57 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 April 20, 2009.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*