

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
August 17, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, August 17, 2009. Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 8:14 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

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

\*Motion by Fugate/Second by Kovach to accept the minutes of the July 20, 2009 meeting as presented. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Chairman Smith advised I did receive a letter forwarded by the Mayor and I am going to put into the record. It is from a Frank Lanza and it is a dog park request which is dated June 29, 2009. I don't if Mr. Lanza is aware of the other lady who came before us back in I believe April or March – late spring. Basically he forwarded this letter to me to get to here. I am just going to add it into the record but he is basically for so we could form a committee just like other cities and get ideas to do a fund raiser if necessary and he has got some suggestions but would also volunteer to get involved in some type of fund raising or group effort. Chairman Smith read the letter into the record. I will call him and get the information and put him in touch with the other lady, I believe I have her information at home and maybe they can come up with something.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**Scott Hotishell** advised my son plays baseball here in Sheffield Lake and without going into the background of it, I started a travel baseball team for the boys in Sheffield Lake and Sheffield that play in the Sheffield Lake Youth Baseball League. We broke away and formed a tournament team and we are going to a league called CVBA, it is the Cuyahoga Valley Baseball Association which is a travel league. Since I started my team, there are now 2 other teams and possibly a 4<sup>th</sup> team that are also doing the same thing. What I am here to ask for is the use of a field for our boys to play at since we won't be allowed to use Oster Park. We were hoping that we could use Ferndale, our first game start the middle of April – April 15<sup>th</sup> is the tentative start date for the season and it could change to the 17<sup>th</sup> what have you. But basically we are looking for is a place to play from April 1<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> where we can practice and hold games. We play a 20 game season with 10 home games. Right now with the 3 teams it is a total of 36 boys from Sheffield Lake and Sheffield Village, possibly being a total of 48. The use of the field we would need with 3 teams we need 2 to 3 days of practice for both teams and 30 days for games with which we

would have to schedule still. So we are looking at a block of time from April 1 to August 1 and time being in the evening from 5 to 9. Chairman Smith clarified so you want to permit Ferndale I? Mr. Hotishell answered yes. Chairman Smith asked is it going to be under the league the CVBA or is it going to under a team. We have talked once before for the record, you are aware of how the other league used it when they did. They managed it and they managed which teams did their own practice scheduling. It was permitted to the teams, that way there wasn't any issues. Mr. Hotishell answered correct, what we could do since there is 3 teams is that we could call ourselves the CVBA League. We have got together so that we could figure out what we were doing. The 3 teams have sat down but the 4<sup>th</sup> team has not decided coming along with us or not, so we are a group. Chairman Smith advised we need a definitive schedule during the off times so we know when the off times are because the park is a park. Mr. Hotishell answered okay. I would have a more set schedule as far as once I go to the general meeting for CVBA. Chairman Smith asked you are going to start April 1<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Hotishell answered we are probably going to start before that but I am going to take the boys to an indoor facility because at the time of year it is probably raining so our practice time is going to be determined by the weather and if it is anything like this year. Mr. Fugate asked what else is there, just the field or the out building that is there. Mr. Hotishell answered if there is an out building there because I noticed there are no bases there – we would buy our own bases, home plate, pitchers mound and so forth. Home plate and pitchers mound we would anchor in and those probably wouldn't come out but bases – a place to store the bases. If we had to we would line the fields ourselves but hoping you guys would at least be able to drag the field. Chairman Smith answered we can the field and I believe Joe is in the process of upgrading each field to bring the elevations up in the in field and stuff like that. Mr. Evans asked is this going to be just the 4 teams or is this going to like your home field for outside teams to come too? Mr. Hotishell answered when we play the games, it is going to be our home field to play plus our practices. Mr. Evans asked is there going to be any issue with the league your in in terms of the condition the fields are in? I personally think there is a lot of safety hazards with our 3 public baseball fields – the fencing, the back drops. Chairman Smith answered he is giving us until April the beginning of the year to take Ferndale I and get it up to snuff. Mr. Evans stated I understand but is the league going to come to your home field and go no we are not willing to hold the games here? Mr. Howdishel answered that is a good question, I started this and have been in contact with CVBA. We had James Day at first but when we measured it, it is too small to fit the bases. After a brief discussion, the Board voiced no objections to request and Chairman Smith advised we would have to have a fixed practice schedule and then when it is devised we would have to a fixed game schedule so that those times are specifically permitted. So anytime besides that time anybody else can be there. Mr. Hotishell advised we do have a set time with the league when we have to have our schedules done, I just remember when that is. Chairman Smith asked do you want a permit now for that time frame?

Mr. Hotishell answered yes and then I can give you a set schedule. Mr. Kovach advised depending on what you are going to do with concessions you are probably going to have to talk to the Health Department. He explained requirements. After a brief discussion, \*Motion by Smith/Second by Fugate that the City of Sheffield Lake Park Board permit Ferndale I for the specific use in 2010 baseball season April 1 through August 1 for the CVBA, Cuyahoga Valley Baseball Association's local teams here Scott Hotishell being the person representing the Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Baseball Team that is a member of this league. They will supply in the spring a practice schedule and a game schedule for proper permitting of the times of the baseball field before April 1. Yeas All.

***PARK SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: None.***

***RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT: None.***

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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

***Memorial Park:*** Mr. Evans stated I asked about the relocating of 3 monuments at Memorial Park, I put that request in several months to see whether it could be done and I got an affirmative. I talked to the Mayor and got an affirmative from him, it is just one of my things I am going to put in my 5-year plan that I want to present and basically they said the Park Board would have to just forward it to the city as something we would like done. Chairman Smith advised we will keep that under Memorial Park. Mr. Kovach asked what exactly is it that you want to do with these, relocate within the park? Mr. Evans answered what I would like to do is just make it more of a reasonable memorial. There was a brief discussion on the park; previous renovations and proposed possibilities.

***Neighborhood Parks:*** Mr. Fugate advised just what I brought up the last time – the basketball hoops. I went to Gary Green and was shooting with my son and we basically could only use one because the other one was leaning, just like Guenther's – it is the same thing. It would be nice to have the pole straightened. Chairman Smith advised I will put that on a list to get a hold of Joe about, I will talk to him first thing in the morning. Chairman Smith advised Ferndale Park will probably be the next park in transition because of the bike trail projects that are going through there and what Metro Parks are working on. They still don't have a time of where they are going to tell everybody – no press release yet. Mr. Fugate asked where does that go through there? Chairman Smith answered from Idlewood to Harris Road, south of the Oster Ditch.

Chairman Smith advised there were a couple of issues that I talked to our grant writer about that were lost in transition of him leaving Service Director to Grant Writer. I reminded him that I kind of still did not want that stuff falling by the way side. One was pay phones – that we were supposed to have one in the boat launch area and one at Shell Cove and the other issue had to do with going after buoys and certain other

things for like Lakewood Beach Park and also we have transitional grants that he was supposed to apply for and get the conditions of such as the restrooms of Phase II for the boat launch. So he is aware of what the Board is still expecting to be done. He advised Mr. Evans that Jerry did fix that bench, the bolt that was missing. Mr. Evans stated I was going to bring that up again because it still seems very warped when I went by it today.

**Lakefront Parks:** Chairman Smith advised I would like to commend the Police Department for getting the boat off the boat ramp, it came off a trailer going up the ramp. They got it taken care of real quick. There was a brief discussion.

**GRANTS, GIFTS & AWARDS:**

- a.) **Brookside Bike Trail/Covered Bridge** – Chairman Smith advised the covered bridge was sealed and it looks good. That was completed a little while ago so that is why it is a darker color. They have taken down trees at the entrances to and from in areas to start laying the stone. At some point Joe is going to start taking it down north and south route. Mr. Gardner did tell me that things look good for the restroom Phase II boat launch.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**K9's on beaches** – Mr. Kovach advised mostly Rick has gotten a hand full of calls about people walking their dogs down on the beach which is okay but they are letting their dogs do their business and not cleaning up after themselves which is not okay. There has been several incidents and I don't if it is the same person or there is several people going down doing that. The biggest complaint is down at the boat launch. After a lengthy discussion and review of codified ordinance 505.17 a and b, the Board decided to monitor the issue and discuss at the next meeting.

Mr. Evans advised I passed out a copy of the Park Board questioner that I did, I only printed up about 140 but I got 100 of them back. What I distributed was basically the results of that. I am also planning on having my 5-year plan finalized for the next meeting and it is going to be very specific and very detailed. I am getting quotes on everything that I would like to have done, I am having drawings and photographs whatever I can get from people. If you guys want it before the next meeting I can forward via emails but I would like to start getting feedback from everybody else. Whether you have specific projects that you want to try to go forward on, if they are not on my plan. I have talked to the Mayor on this, I sort of have an idea of what the steps are for us getting anything done. So once this is out of my hands, I don't want it to become an idle issue. I would like to us to start prioritizing things that we can agree on and move forward to the city to try and get done. Chairman Smith advised if you want to email us preliminaries to look over because there is some projects that we are working on we might as well add it all into the same thing concerning parks. I know there is several that I am involved with.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Evans to adjourn at 9:08 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 August 17, 2009.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*