

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
March 21, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, March 21, 2011. Chairman Hodges called the meeting to order at 8PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Hodges, Kovach

Absent: Fugate, Cerankowski, Mayor Piskura (excused)

Attending: Service Director Smith

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Smith to accept the minutes of the December 20, 2010 meeting as presented. Yeas All.

***CORRESPONDENCE:None.***

***PRESENTATIONS:None.***

***PARK SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:*** Service Director Smith advised currently we have sand removal going on at Community Boat Launch. That process will probably take another 10 days. After that we have the mouth, we will take depths and then we will have a mouth and probably have a barge come in and just verify that we have got clear depth inside the channel and at the mouth and remove that rock/that big boulder that we have out in the entrance of the boat area. Chairman Hodges asked what is the expected tonnage. Service Director Smith answered I don't know, I can by last year's tonnage and we will probably remove 1500 tons of sand. That is what we removed last year and that is a best guess estimate. Chairman Hodges asked you just take that and distribute it over? Service Director Smith answered we have 3 areas that are designated areas to put the sand and one is next door at the beach on the eastern side of the boat launch and the other one is Lakewood Beach Park and the other one is West Shore which is the Civic Center and we actually have one more which is Mizpah but we won't be using that. We probably are going to be putting the majority of the sand on the west side because we are going to bring it up into the rocks; to cover the rocks a bit and make it a little more usable. Member Kovach advised just to clear up any misunderstandings that are out there in the community that that boat launch is sand trapped – it is acting 100% the way it is supposed to and the way it was designed to do and it is not just getting clogged up due to a mis-design. Service Director Smith answered oh no, the sand trap is actually working 100% the way that it was designed to. We chose to design the sand trap when we built the boat launch, it was part of the design itself. We actually had a sedimentation study done and in that sedimentation study it outlined the sand flow with the near shore lake currents; along the lake shore and we prepared for that in the design. The sand trap fills up, the

problem is it takes about a year to fill the sand trap and the capacity is correct and the size of it is correct. But what happens if you get towards November and the sand trap is full, in a matter of 3 weeks as soon as that sand trap gets so full that it blocks the opening between the little island and the inside break water then the sand starts filtering around into the channel along the wall. It will deposit itself right into where we used to park the police boat. We got hit with 3 storms with a couple of days in between them then all that sand built up which actually occurred in the last 3 storms in November. I was down there and noted each day the difference as I thought it would help, of the sand encasement that was occurring and if the weather would have cooperated we would have removed most of that last fall and we didn't. I wanted to do that last year and I planned on doing it but the weather didn't allow us to do that. Plus we had a shortness of manpower in the situation that we are used to using that equipment, so we put it off and we started a little early this time. The sand trap is working exactly the way it was designed, it would be nice if we could add the second one and at some point in the future and move on down to putting in the second island. Chairman Hodges asked what is the costs of something like this? Service Director Smith answered I do not have any costs figures at this time, I can get you those costs. Member Kovach advised I think that would actually be part of the design of the extension going further west right? Service Director Smith answered we do it in house, the original drawing called for another sand trap on the east side arcing out towards the east on the north wall – kind of like a hook and that would catch the sand before it made its trip around. Then that would only work until that whole thing became beach and would actually create a beach all the way down and that was omitted out of the original plans as a costs savings. We also called for a second island west of the current island, so that in itself in the design would have caused a lot larger sand trap. It would have been a larger sand trap over on the west side also. I have heard some people say that it is filling up with sand but they don't know because evidently they haven't paid attention that it designed to fill up on the outside. Member Kovach stated I just think there is a misunderstanding. Service Director Smith added when it gets so much in it – it is full and when it is full it just starts drifting along the inside there which is the easiest to clean. We got about 10 more days and go from there and then we will be moving onto West Shore Park. We had a tree come down at the West Shore Park in the back during the one storm – big tree so one of our worries are gone but we still got to take care of the other one before the solar goes on it. Recently just got the files on the solar for the roof of the Civic Center which the roof repair will be going as soon as the weather breaks and right after that the solar panel installation which is a 17.8 kilowatt system will be installed on the roof of the Joyce E Hanks Civic Center. The exterior issues of the building which concern the Park Board; landscaping is still yet – we are not completely done with that. We have siding on the exterior of the building that has got to go on/the big sign, of course the sign out in the road is being taken back. They got it wrong – they got

the wrong phone number on the sign and it is not the way we intended. It is crooked and there are some other issues, that is being resolved and currently the front fascia plate that says "Joyce E Hanks" Community Center is down being repaired, stained and new special letters being put on it before we put it back up. So there is a lot going on at West Shore Park, a lot of different things going on and then of course when we are done with the boat launch we will be moving the excavator down there to start working on the Civic Center bank on Lake. I got a couple of trees on Lakewood Beach Park we are going to have to deal with this year that are dead – they are single tall and they are dead. We will have to remove them and I want to commend Jerry Gillespie and Travis Hastings, several years ago the Park Board wanted Erie Shore Park at the end of Abbe Road to be an information center for local boaters because we have the bait/tackle shop up there and at that time we had talked to Gregg Lewis about being able to if we put a box or a notice thing up there if he could have it where boaters could pull in that little loop and get out and go look at what the hottest fishing spots are – GPS coordinates inside a glass case/kiosk. We have a kiosk up there and underneath the kiosk is now a display case that is mounted in the center and Jerry did a really great job on doing that. He used a box that I believe was downstairs and made it work and it looks really good and I will be getting a hold of Gregg Lewis hopefully if the Park Board still wishes for him to put that information in that box and have access to it. Chairman Hodges asked do other cities have something similar? Service Director Smith answered I don't know what other cities have but I do know some Metro Parks and State Parks have them. In this situation we have that bait and tackle shop and it is really well known sitting right up there and it is all game fishing. So that park is just basically a Lake Road park as there is no lake access there, it is an informational park/rest area. We thought at that time, previous Park Boards thought that it would be a good thing to utilize that kiosk in that type of information. It even has electricity, I just don't know the extent of what we have done so far with the electric but it does have electricity to it. Then Gregg Lewis who owns the business volunteered to maintain that if we put it up. So just to be able to constantly change the GPS coordinates, there is good fishing out here/there is good fishing out there. Our original intent was to put a map of the shore line out so many miles into the lake so that he could mark it on a daily basis. Like I said as long as the Park Board wants to continue that. Chairman Hodges advised that makes sense. Member Kovach stated that was one of their winter projects that they did? Service Director Smith answered I just noticed it today and I was taken aback by how nice it looked and I am there all the time and I didn't see it. So I would assume that it was recently. I didn't get a chance to talk to them because of course I had this outfall thing going on today. Service Director Smith advised of the long lists of duties for Jerry and Travis for the off season as well as the on season – maintenance of all parks; cleaning, trash removal, dog feces, mow and trim lawns and trees and branches, buildings, fences, sweepings, shoveling public properties, maintain equipment, maintaining beaches,

etc. They help prepare, set-up and maintain anything that the city is involved and also when departments are overwhelmed that we will ask them to give a hand and they are always here to lend a hand on a regular basis. We have a man and a half a day as one does go to school but spring and summer time – it is grass mowing which is amazing. They helped with the Lowe's project; they put the siding up on the west wall of the building, they helped with all the upgrades going in on the Civic Center. I would love to have some volunteers instead of complainers, we have a lot of stuff to do and we could use your help and they would have a better perception of what is going on.

**RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORT: None.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Designated Skate Areas: None.**

**Buoy's at Lakewood Beach Park (in the spring) – None.**

**Memorial Park: None.**

**Neighborhood Parks: None.**

**Lakefront Parks: None.**

**GRANTS, GIFTS & AWARDS:**

- a.) **Brookside Bike Trail/Covered Bridge**—Service Director Smith advised I think we should consider putting another light over at the covered bridge. Although it is not park land, it does belong to the city but maybe that will change and if that does change I think maybe we should do that. I will make the same recommendation to Council at some point. Member Kovach advised probably a Roads & Drains thing. Chairman Hodges asked are you thinking the east side as the west side is lit up like a Christmas tree. Service Director Smith answered yes, to keep people from getting underneath it. There is a point where the city wide – parks plan and the city plan merge. It was a lot easier to keep them separate when there was no infrastructure and now we have a really nice covered bridge with a paved bike trail that runs through a natural area all the way down to a park. That is the city's property because it exists on a right of way currently and that can change by ordinance at any point in the future. But we have to also maintain the stuff that it goes to, it goes to Ferndale Park. Ferndale Park has got issues too that I want to bring up too – I am going to have Jerry drag that baseball field again and get it looking a little better and we will probably bring in a little bit more clay. Member Kovach asked have you had anymore contact with the gentleman that has the travel team that has used it in the last couple of years? Service Director Smith answered no one come forth yet to get fields permitted yet. So the sooner they come in the better but I will have Ferndale Park groomed and ready. That is a park that we should look at down the road of developing, looking at the master plan and seeing what the vision was of it, adding or changing it and should be one of the next things that we should start to look at. Sheffield Village and Lorain County Metro Parks

will be completing their trail heads which will merge basically and leave that last section of city trail open there. They will be at that east/west run of bike trail behind Ferndale Park from Idlewood to just before Sheffield and then cutting through to Ferndale and then our section through Ferndale. So once those connecting loops are in that will give us total access to the parks, so we should probably have a pretty decent plan on how we want to proceed with Ferndale/if we do/what we do/how can we? We currently have a second baseball field down there that the field is about a foot lower in grade then everywhere around it and it turns into a giant water pool for 6 months out of the summer. Even when there is no rain it is wet. I don't know what you guys want to do with that but I just wanted to toss that up in the air and give you something to think about. David had a book – Lake Erie Coastal Beaches that I wanted to show you and now Sheffield Lake is represented really nicely in the brochure put out by the state tourism groups. Steve has seen it but I don't think you have Richard but I will get it for you though.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Service Director Smith advised after the dredging/removal of the sand at the boat launch, out of the sand trap by us I want to bring in and I already put this in the budget and have the money – bringing in a barge and having the inside channel after we depth check it and any high spots sucked out, the mouth of the channel sucked out and then along the outside of the north wall. The costs is going to be a ballpark and they all run around the same and I am going to say under \$8000.00. Different people do it but I did put the money in the budget last year for this because we didn't do it last year and we ran into problems but then again too we couldn't get the excavator and the equipment out high enough out of the water out in the middle of the channel to get the remaining residual sand that was left in there. We probably could have worked it if we would have kept up a couple more weeks but this year I want to make sure that it is clean and dry that way and I would like a motion by the Park Board that that would be okay to do if that is at all possible. Just as an FYI. \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Hodges to authorize the Service Director to go ahead with your plan to bring the barge in and clear the residual sand out after the city is done with the annual sand removal project out of the sand traps. Yeas All.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.**

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Hodgestoadjourn at 8:29PM. 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

*Richard Hodges*

*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 March 21, 2011.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Edward R Podmanik*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Richard Rosso*