

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
June 17, 2013**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, June 17, 2013. Acting Chairman Kovach called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Lewis, Kovach, Albaugh, Kovach, Farris, Kustra, Mayor Bring, Service Director Smith

Attending: Councilman Cizl, Jonathan Wright

\*Motion by Kustra/Second by Albaugh to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2013 meeting with any corrections. Yeas All.

***CORRESPONDENCE: None.***

***PRESENTATIONS: None.***

***PARK SUPERINTENDENT/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS:*** Service Director Smith stated I am going to get a couple of doggy signs and what I mean is about people picking up your doggy dodo and I don't know if I am going to incorporate it into a park rules sign at the parks. Like even at Ferndale we lack that signage but I have got some people who have been turning in the culprits. So one of the things before we go is to try to get some deterrents to effect everybody because we have a lot of dog walkers and that goes on the bike trail. So at the same time I am going to put the doggy bag containers; I am going to get 2 of those for the parks/trail and then I am going to put a sign over across the street and along the trail. But I am not going to dirty the trail up, it will be at the entrances. I have noticed we have a dog problem at the Boat Launch beach specifically, people bringing their dogs down to the beach ignoring the sign. I just want to bring that to your attention. The other thing is while we are doing signs I would like to get a park closed at dark sign at Lakewood Beach. We don't have that there at this point and time so I would like to get that with your approval if you don't have a problem with that. The last thing that I have Mr. Kolleda who is one of our neighbors to Shell Cove Park has become friends with a neighbor on the other side of Shell Cove Park; the gentleman that built the beautiful gray house put in a drain tile and made a French drain to drain all the way on the west side of Shell Cove up to Lake Road by the bus garage and it drains that French drain into his cliff area and then down and out. He offered to do that when he built the home and he did that. He hired Mr. Kolleda to help finish off the grade and grass and that type of stuff and Mr. Kolleda approached me about filling in those 3 areas that hold water by the bus shelter all the time and seed it at the same time his front yard. He just wants to do that. Now in my experience with Mr. Kolleda there is always

more to the story but I couldn't find any except that he is going to affect his grade but as long as that grade goes to the French drain it is really not going to affect us anyway. I would recommend that you guys allow Mr. Kolleda to do this and I would make sure that it is taken care of. I would like it in a form of a motion if you choose to do so as we always do when somebody ask permission to go onto park property with equipment. \*Motion Albaugh/Second by Kustra to allow Mr. Kolleda to do so noted work. Yeas All.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

***Designated Skate Areas:*** Mayor Bring advised money is going to be pretty tight.

***Memorial Parks:*** Mayor Bring advised same thing, money issues. Probably to be honest, nothing is going to get done this year.

***Neighborhood Parks:*** Service Director Smith advised I don't if you noticed but Jerry has been using the Styner to mow. We got our 72 inch back today from Wooster. He has been a little behind but he has been doing really good for one guy and we haven't had much community service to help him yet. But now we got the mower back so we should be able to do a little more. Member Albaugh asked is it just him? Service Director Smith answered it is just him. Member Albaugh asked Pat's son isn't there anymore? Service Director Smith answered it is just him, the parks funding comes out of the 101 account which is the general fund and as you know that is what has been affected by local government funding reductions.

***Lakefront Parks:*** Service Director Smith advised we are almost done with the sand at the Boat Launch, just a couple more little things and that machine will be out of there. So far I haven't had any complaints from boats hitting or grounding out. I haven't had one complaint. I guess we got it pretty good so we might as well clean the machine out, level a little bit of that sand and get out of there. I do want to thank the Fire Department for hosing down the ramp. The Safety Director took care of that. There was a lot of sand run up in the grooves. Mayor Bring advised we are going to probably, there is a hydrant going across there and it is just water hydrant for hoses and stuff. I was talking to Service Director Smith and I was also talking to one of our water guys and we are considering actually running a 2 inch line underneath Lake Road and then turning that hydrant into a bigger hydrant but it is still going to be smaller than a normal one and that way we can run a 2 inch hose for washing things off but it will also be – if something would happen to somebody's boat over there, we would have to have a lot of water and now otherwise we would have to hook up across the street. So we are going to try to do that, I don't think is going to be a tremendous costs. So sometime this year we will probably get to that and get that done. Service Director Smith stated just so you know we wash down the boat ramp regularly, the sand that comes up off the tires of the trailers gets caught in the grooves so that is hosed down all the time and then of course we try to maintain a routine of wash downs because of the geese and their droppings. Normally Lorain County Solid Waste grant which the city goes after and the Park Board has traditionally over the

last 13 or 14 years been a recipient of that grant program. Two years and most recently they changed the criteria for applying for a Solid Waste grant and it is now a 50% match reimbursement grant. In other words, we have got to plan on applying for the grant and you have to tie up money which comes and delegate it to be used for the match and at the same time you have to pay for the whole project and then you get reimbursed. So I turned down our opportunity to go after Lorain County Solid Waste grant this year, we were eligible for \$12,000.00 which we would have had to apply for \$6000.00 but we would be tied up for 3 times the amount just to break even until the end of the year. It is just not feasible for us under their new structure and the new methodology that they use for coming up with a ratio's required by the city's you know to put funds in. Service Director Smith added I am working on getting the sequence corrected on the flashing lights patterns. They are off a little bit at the Boat Launch so if anyone is aware, the beacon has got to be programmed. The Army Corp of Engineers from Buffalo and the US Coast Guard kind of informed us last year and our remote/our programmer is broke so I have solicited the help from the Coast Guard to come out and help us with this. We are finally going to get it taken care of. Also all of the cameras are working a lot better. Mayor Bring advised also we applied for the restroom facility at the Boat Launch, Mr. Graves who is now our Grant Writer did get an acknowledgment that they are looking into that. So that is still active and I think it was \$36,000.00 or something like that. Service Director Smith advised I think that is 80/20. Member Albaugh asked on these restrooms that you are talking about, are they going to be plumbed in – they are not going to be like porta-johns? Mayor Bring answered yes. Service Director Smith advised the sewer and everything all the connections are underneath the asphalt and into the side where it would go. Member Albaugh asked I mean generally cleaning and trash and stuff? Service Director Smith answered parks would handle that. That would be another assigned thing that Jerry would do. Member Kovach asked how is it going with the kids down there, are we average or has it dropped off? Service Director Smith answered the kids are parking their bikes in the bike rack. Jerry and I were talking about it this morning because he is going to be painting the bike rack gray instead of white so it matches the railings down by the water. The kids are using the bike rack, very few kids we might have 2 or 3 young ones that are riding their bikes down there. Then I had one incident with a skateboarder who was skateboarding while the boats were trying to go out. The skateboarder skated right into a backing up trailer and then he lost his balance and fell to the ground and the trailer was backing up. So I had to intercede again and explained to them to take their skate boards out of the park, they weren't allowed in there and pointed to the sign and explained he almost just got killed which he did. The boater was really angry but that is the only incident – that is one incident as compared to a regular routine of gangs or groupings of 5 to 10 kids. Member Kovach stated so it is calming down. Service Director Smith answered so far. Mayor Bring stated I hate to say it but it has been extremely quiet, we had no pink shirts running

around town. I guess they were all tired of working. I honestly just made that comment to the Chief as we were talking this morning. He said it has been extremely quiet. It has been really nice, we are expecting something to happen but overall throughout the whole city it has been extremely quiet. Service Director Smith advised there was one more incident that I had with 2 – 8 year olds, a 10 year old and a 15 year old. The 2 – 8 year olds were swimming, jumping off the rocks without any parental supervision and I informed them that they were unsupervised and they said well no I am not, we are with our babysitter she is right there and she is 15. So I was faced with the dilemma and having a daughter who babysits myself but at the same time I think we have a dilemma there of small kids unsupervised pretty much. I don't know how we would handle that, do we restrict or do we not restrict, do we say kids under 13 need parental supervision. I stopped them from jumping off the rocks but at the same time you really stop to think about it, chances are they really didn't know their kids were probably down there. Member Albaugh stated it is a parent issue.

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

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

**NEW BUSINESS:** Member Kovach asked Jonathan Wright, did you get your answers from the last meeting on the picnic and something to do with someone wanting to do some work? Jonathan Wright asked can we have a picnic on Sunday, I got the park for the Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Youth Soccer Association. We were planning on having a picnic at Guenther Park on Sunday. Service Director Smith answered your park is permitted to Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Youth Soccer Association for another year I believe. Mr. Wright stated right I just wondered in off season, in between the 2 seasons. Service Director Smith stated your season is not over if you are still using the park. Mr. Wright answered okay, we are going to have a cookout on Sunday at 2 pm and I am hoping to have about 50 people there. We are going to have some of the Board Members bring up some grills and cook some fare and have registrations for the fall session – things like that. I have talked to a couple of local companies and they are willing to give some small donations and Sheffield Lake Soccer will pick up the rest and hope to have first of many summer cookouts to come. I also wondered, we want to repair some of the holes that are in those fields. Does the city have dirt? Service Director Smith answered not top soil, we have lots and lots of clay. Mr. Wright stated well then we are going to have to find top soil, so we would like permission to do that over the summer; find top soil, get seed, get straw, fix up the holes if that is not a problem. Member Albaugh stated all on the Soccer Association. Mr. Wright stated so my follow up question to that is for every dime that we put into this and every man hour of labor we put into this can we consider that an in-kind donation to the city that could be used in your guys budget report. Service Director Smith answered only if it is applied to a certain grant and a

grant is applied for where you have community build that would utilize that as part of its methodology. Each grant is structured differently. You can't bank it, there is no way of banking like volunteer time. Mr. Wright stated it could be recorded and used later right? Service Director Smith answered I don't believe so, I think it has to be done – you can't bank it. It has to be done per project per grant because it is all different Jonathan. The dirt – we did purchase good dirt at the beginning of the year and had Jerry fill some holes. Just so you are aware. Mr. Wright advised yes I do remember and we went out and moved the goals to try to protect that so they weren't right underneath inside the goals but there was no seed put down at that time and it got hammered by the weather. Service Director Smith stated that is where I think you are wrong, Rob Palmer who owns Weed Pro is one of your sponsors called me and told me because we had a bill – he had sent the Soccer bill to the city and what he had done is he said he was sending his people over on our straw to over seed our straw while the straw was down. So I called Josh and explained to him so I think he did do that because he ended up sending another bill and the bill I think is for your write off but he sent the city the last bill and that was like 2 weeks ago. Mr. Wright advised okay well never the less nothing grew there so we would like to try again. Service Director Smith advised we will see if we can find some good dirt, I might be able to put it in a pile over there. Mr. Wright stated we have already started looking on our end also. I know it is not the best idea to plant grass in the hot summer time. There was a brief discussion on the germination period for different types of grass seed. Mr. Wright asked could we irrigate it, is there something to tap into and use that water? Service Director Smith answered I don't think that that would be probably be advisable. Mr. Wright asked I mean running a hose to it, can we water it? Service Director Smith answered yes, you have water in the concession stand. We do have a hydrant there, we could put a yard meter on it too and then there is no sewage if you just use the water. That would work out better and I will arrange it. Mr. Wright stated this was a while ago actually we talked about making that all soccer fields and it was decided that we wanted to keep baseball as a part of that. Would there be a problem eventually moving the back stop to a different location so that that fence doesn't cut into a part of the space that could be used as field. Basically the idea would be to move the back stop to the northeast corner of the field with the fence running along the Walker Road fence and then the Ford Plant fence. Instead of trying to maintain an in-field which is not happening, just have it all be grass and it could all be used to move fields around to try to help that grass stay healthy in between seasons. It would give us more space to reline fields and move them around. Member Albaugh stated first of all taking the fence and then eventually moving it costs money which we don't have right now. We honestly can't do that. Member Farris asked for clarification of relocation of back stop which Mr. Wright reviewed diagram with him. Member Albaugh advised I don't like the idea of having the in-field be grass. Mr. Wright advised that is what it is right now or at least right now it is weeds.



Member Albaugh advised I understand that but Jerry is one guy right now, apparently the only guy in the parks but he does have the equipment to go through and take away the weeds and make it dirt again. I have done it, I have worked in parks so I know he has it. Obviously that is probably on the bottom of the priority list right now but he does have the equipment so when he can get to it he will and Ferndale Park is the same thing. I haven't been over that way so I can't tell you. But I don't like the idea of having it all grass. Mr. Wright asked what about moving it? Member Albaugh answered I don't have a problem with moving it but then you will have the dirt problem. Neighborhood kids do play on it, I have seen them play. Service Director Smith concurred they on it all the time. Mr. Wright agreed I have also seen them on occasion. Service Director Smith advised Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Youth Soccer Association has a written agreement with Lorain County Metro Parks on the undeveloped U6 fields that is behind Anderson Automotive by Barr School on the south side of 611. Have you thought of that? Mr. Wright answered I wasn't aware of it. Service Director Smith stated when you pull into Trail bridge, is that what they call it behind Anderson's there is a parking lot and in front of that parking lot those are soccer fields for Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Youth Soccer Association that when I was involved with soccer that I worked with with Dan Martin. Josh is aware of them and the issue was who was going to maintain them. The Metro Parks planted it with field mix and they leveled it all out. You might want to walk it out and check it out but right now it is natural area. If you need to get a hold of Mr. Zemenic who is now the new director of Lorain County Metro Parks I would be glad to give you the information. The plan was then was to take the U6 fields and move them over there and Barr School was going to accommodate a full size field and it was to cut down on the actual use at Guenther. There was a brief discussion on the field and other recreational uses that are offered in area. Mr. Wright continued I know a recreation levy just failed but I definitely think it is a good idea to keep trying to put it on there and get people's attention and the way I believe I could help something like that is by providing images to run I guess a levy campaign and try to get interest and attention to what you want to do. I could provide designs and images that could be put on flyers, at the library, at the schools and put everywhere people might pick it up. Emailed out to citizens and things like that. Advertising essentially of what the money would be used towards and I think a good way to approach it would be to visit all the parks; you guys create a vision for what you want to see happen there. There was a brief discussion on the levy for which parks is funded through general fund.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.**

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

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Albaugh to adjourn at 7:42 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

*James Lewis*

*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 Park Board Of June 17, 2013.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Rick Rosso*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM

*Eric S Elliott*