

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
June 15, 2015**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, June 15, 2015. Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Lewis, Albaugh, Kovach, Prokay, Mayor Bring

Absent: Farris (excused)

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Albaugh to accept the minutes of the May 18, 2015 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

**PARK SUPERINTENDENT/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS:** Mayor Bring advised we don't have a lot going on at the parks. You know the Pride Committee is doing a lot of work. They were down at Shell Cove doing some stuff down there. Eric had actually asked to have the Engineer look at the deck down there but I don't know if we are going to do that. The deck has been up for 25 years so I may send the Building Inspector down there with Pat Hastings and take a look and make sure that everything is okay. But Pat didn't see that there was a problem but I have not been down to look at that, I may go down there too. So that may happen here in the next – probably the end of this week or beginning of next week. Member Kovach stated I am going to guess and in the past we have replaced a couple of boards as necessary. If they want to check the under structure on it but normally we have just had to replace some boards. I think Eric gets a little ahead of himself on some of these projects which is okay but if it had to come down I am pretty sure it wouldn't be going back up. Mayor Bring advised like I said I haven't been down there but I will take a peek at it and see but I will go down with the Building Inspector too. Chairman Lewis advised I will look at it too. Mayor Bring stated just to check the beams and things like that and make sure everything is structurally good and nothing rotted. If there is something rotted then we have to replace it then we will do that. But if you get an engineer involved and we might be redoing the whole lake bank down there. We will take a peek at that.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Designated Skate Areas:** Mayor Bring advised the designated skate areas, we still haven't done anything. We are busy doing some other things right now but that has been kind of setback a little bit.

**Memorial Parks:**

Mayor Bring advised I think Rosa has probably got some information on that.

**Neighborhood Parks:** Mayor Bring advised – over at Guenther we did take down the basketball hoops. I do have a little popup pavilion thing 20 X 20 for Saturday. Member Prokay asked will we be able to put it over that area? Mayor Bring answered I don't see why you couldn't. We actually have 2 of them, so if you need to borrow those you can do that. I will be going tomorrow to order the 1 pavilion for that. So what we are going to do is, it takes about a week for the metal to come. So we are probably going to have that dropped off over at the Service Department over there and then we will take it over as needed. We will get the guys to start marking out the posts and get the posts set the concrete and get that going. Probably in the next 2-1/2 or 3 weeks you will start seeing the posts up over there. Member Prokay asked so there won't be a basketball court there anymore? Mayor Bring advised every time you try to do something then we had one lady call and complain about not having the basketball hoops up anymore. I drive by that probably 4 times a week and I might have seen 2 kids out there in a month. I think it is going to be a better use with this pavilion and then we will put maybe some grills out there and stuff like that. I think it will be a lot better use for that. It doesn't matter what you do you are not going to get 100% of the people that are satisfied with everything. This lady was just concerned that we were taking the whole park down and just getting rid of it and I said that is not true. There are all kinds of rumors that start flying around. As I said the neighborhood parks are all being kept up, Jerry and his summer helper are doing a good job with that.

**Lakefront Parks:** Mayor Bring stated the same thing, they did finish up that movie over there. That was a pretty good success and I don't know if you read it and I think it was in the Chronicle, they had a little article in there about the movie and Sheffield Lake was mentioned so that is kind of a nice thing. It went pretty smoothly down there for that, they filmed even in bad weather and I think that they did that on purpose because I said to them there was some nice days but they seemed to do more filming in the bad weather then they did in the good weather. We did have one gentleman that was complaining that his civil rights and everything else was being violated because he couldn't go down to the beach. We addressed that and told him that we did have the right, we gave those people permission to use it. It is no different than if we are working on a road and we decide to close the road for temporary period of time. We tried to explain to him that is what the process is and this is the same thing but he wanted nothing about that. He wanted to go down to the beach and that was the end of it. Member Kovach asked has he been at the beach since it has been opened back up? Mayor

Bring answered to be honest we have the cameras over there and I have not seen the gentleman since. It was just the fact that he couldn't go down those days.

**Lakewood Beach Park:** *above.*

**Community Boat Launch:** *above.*

**GRANTS, GIFTS & AWARDS:** Mayor Bring reported Mr. Hastings is now our Grant Writer and he is going to be working on a number of projects for grants looking at what we can obtain for everything in the city but the parks will be one of the things that we will be looking for too. Equipment wise and everything else, so he is going to be looking at whatever is available for the city to acquire so that is going on now.

**Brookside Bike Trail/Covered Bridge:** Mayor Bring advised as far as I know everything has been going well over there. On the bridge, I don't think we are going to get it covered this year but I think next year we are going to put a cover over top of that where the one walkway was. Also I don't know if I am going to have to get permission from the EPA to put post in there but I think we can do that. Just keeping busy trying to keep up with everything. Member Prokay stated with regards to the skate park, knowing that you said there are other things right now that we are working on. Ferndale was being looked as the possible location, also for the pet park – are we going to move forward with that location or is that one of the things that still needs to be worked out. Mayor Bring asked for what? Member Prokay answered for the skate park? Mayor Bring answered yes. Member Prokay stated yes we are going to move forward with the location or are we still trying to work it out? Mayor Bring answered again we are still looking at things. We have approached a couple of people, they do want to donate some time. I know that Concrete & More was one of them. So that may happen this fall and it may not, we will see what happens. We dumped a lot of dirt back there behind the back part of Ferndale Park and it is not even nearly enough to even keep it level. We took the bulldozer over there last Friday and leveled off some more and if you get a chance to take a look at it but we could probably put another 50 dump truck loads just to make that level. So we are going to take a lot of this dirt over here and move it over there. When they put that bike path in it was probably almost 2 foot above everything else there, so you start taking that big of an area and you add 2 foot – that is a lot of dirt. Member Kovach stated you best get that shored up so it doesn't collapse too.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Member Kovach stated actually I have a couple of requests. It is the annual time of year I would like someone to approve. Is the overflow parking considered part of the park because what I would like to do is close the overflow parking Saturday afternoon for the motorcycle show that we have planned. Chairman Lewis stated I don't think that is part of the park. Member Kovach stated

it is technically part of the boat launch. Chairman Lewis stated it is city property, not park property. Mayor Bring advised we will just take some caution tape over there with some stakes in the ground with a sign temporarily closed that's all.

\*Motion by Lewis/Second by Albaugh to give the city permission to close the boat launch Friday July 10<sup>th</sup> for fireworks. Yeas All.

Mayor Bring asked how long is the motorcycle show going to be there? Member Kovach advised it is setup to be prior to the carnival and the bikes maybe parked there during the carnival but usually the fishermen are done by about that time.

Mayor Bring advised the other thing is when we had the helicopter come in the one time, we did the same thing we closed it off temporarily for that and nobody had any issues. Member Prokay stated so what are we suggest in terms of parking, what should we encourage people to do besides walk or ride bike. Mayor Bring stated we have plenty of room there, this is just a small area that Steve is talking about. Member Kovach stated I am talking about the overflow parking that is on the Lake Breeze side of the shopping center and that is basically for overflow parking for the boats and depending on the weather or whatever there may not even be a need. I don't know that I even need the whole area. If it was a car show we would probably the grassy area but with bikes if it is a little soggy or something it would be a lot of money going over on its side. Mayor Bring stated during the fireworks we have probably had 8000 people there you think? They park everywhere. Member Kovach stated that isn't a problem parking there that night, they will park anywhere anyhow; they park on the grass wherever. I am glad I can bring in a crowd once a year.

Chairman Lewis asked heard anything on the Kaboom grant? Mayor Bring answered I have not heard anything on that. Eric is in charge of that, he is the one that turned it in so I have not heard anything. Member Kovach stated it is the waiting game for them, it could take months. Mayor Bring stated I think he had to get it in but I didn't know he was going to be notified right away. Chairman Lewis stated I know, I gave him the letter. Member Kovach stated I am just saying that we had that and the dog park, the picnic. The 2 things that we could depend on were what is going forward with the Memorial Park and for sure the picnic and the other 2 are on a wish list.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:**

***Rosa Gee, representative for DAV, Chapter 20 Paul Proy out of Lorain Ohio –***

Mrs. Gee reported we have our next meeting at our Chapter this coming

Wednesday. One of the things we are going to be discussing is laying out our plan

with each other as to when we start working on the park. We want to start doing

things on the park sometime within the next 10 days. We want to plan on doing a

little at a time, stretching this out to where the park should be ready in September.

We will still have things to do each year but for what we are doing this year. Right

now, what DAV is interested in is we will be starting to sell the pavers for the park and that will be how we will get the money raised to do repairs on the park and the fence – things like that. What we need to do is find out from the city at this point, if we will be able to have someone sit somewhere during Community Days to sell pavers? In other words, not necessarily a booth but remember we had talked about it before where we can advertise that we are selling pavers. Member Kovach stated the city doesn't have anything to do with that, Civic Counsel does. Mrs. Gee asked who do we approach then Steve? Member Kovach stated I think we can work this out. Mrs. Gee asked what meeting do we need to go to to work that out? Member Kovach answered it will be a week from Wednesday, the 24<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Gee stated at this time is there anything that the Park Board wishes to see us do other than the fence which we are all very much aware of. Member Kovach answered I think if you want to do any additional maintenance on the lawn or the flowers but that is probably getting a little bit too late. Maybe you can get some of the end of the year annuals. Anything that is left over at the Garden Center, just like red, white and blue flowers for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Mrs. Gee advised we will have things set up for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Member Kovach stated I don't see anything else, the main thing is you are working with the pavers and the big plan is for a new fence this year. I haven't heard any more yet on this tree but that I am sure we can find a nice place for in there. Member Prokay asked did you say this is going to be basically for reflection right, this park is going to be used for that purpose. So there will be benches there for people to be able to sit. Mrs. Gee answered that is what we are hoping for. Member Prokay stated so maybe having dedicated benches that people can purchase. Mrs. Gee stated that would be nice but once before the city attempted that with their walkway and how did that go? Mayor Bring answered it didn't. Mrs. Gee advised that is why we are going with the pavers is because it is real easy to get people to want to buy a paver for a loved one or someone they knew or just their own name. You would be surprised how many pavers are bought with respect to our Armed Forces and the family name – things like that. The pavers are where we are really hoping on getting quite a few sold. Member Albaugh advised I would like to see a bigger flag there. Mrs. Gee stated I am glad you brought that up. We spoke to Marcy Kaptur's Office and when the park is ready to be dedicated this fall we will have a flag from over the Capital Buildings that will be donated. In the meantime we can a DAV flag up there to cover that aspect until then. Chairman Lewis asked did you get the drawings? Mrs. Gee stated yes and we have those. Chairman Lewis asked you will show us what your plans are? Mrs. Gee answered as I said we will have our meeting Wednesday and then I will be able to bring back. Our meeting is 7 pm Wednesday so that misses Worksession, I won't have anything new for Worksession and the very following meeting sometime after that

we would like to sit down as a group with some of you and the sooner the better. We are very sorry that we are not able to do it for this coming Worksession. Member Prokay stated I just want to make sure that we are on the same page as to what needs to happen on Saturday in terms of the picnic tables like we had last year. Member Kovach asked have you talked to Pat on that? Mayor Bring advised Pat just got back from vacation. Member Prokay advised well the message I left was mostly about the marquee. It would make sense to put it in the area where the canopy will be. I am going to have some other canopy's there that Members of the Pride Committee. Member Kovach stated you will find with picnic tables people tend to move those for you. You won't have any trouble finding help to move tables. Member Prokay stated the other thing is about water because I plan to have water balloons there and I have a little pool to keep the water balloons in and I have a hose that I bought that I am hoping to attach to the concession stand. Is that doable? Mayor Bring stated I will ask. What is the number that he can reach you at? Member Prokay advised of the numbers she can be reached at. I will need to get my own help to put up the pavilion, the canopy? Mayor Bring answered no, well probably as we will not be around on Saturday. There was a brief discussion on putting up the canopy. Member Prokay advised I received a total of \$150.00 in cash donations and that includes Apples and Giant Eagle who both gave \$25.00 gift certificates and I have used that to purchase the food and other materials. So I have some extra money that is still in the account from last year that I will probably have to use to purchase the rest of the stuff.

Member Kovach stated I think perhaps and I know we didn't ask last year basically because the funds were tight but I think it would be a good idea and at this point you would have to make this request but to request to have money put back in the parks/recs account which we haven't had in several years. That way there would be a fund that we could draw from like this or this could be in place of what we used to have for salary for a Parks Director and a Rec Director which came to about \$7000.00. But I would think for what we are doing to appropriate \$5000.00 for the year and that way she could get it. She has got the preliminary budget setup already doesn't she? Mayor Bring answered no. Member Kovach stated that was another reason I figured I would ask now. Chairman Lewis stated if you have \$5000.00 to pass then pass it here but if the city has it. Member Kovach stated we had funds in 2 different accounts but they were consolidate and closed up because we weren't using the positions but we have like Debbie Suarez and the group doing the craft programs for the summer. We had the Easter Egg Hunt – there is just things that we could be using small amounts of money for and it is even listed as events which is what we are doing. Chairman Lewis asked Mayor is there fund available? Mayor Bring answered that I would have to ask Tammy and her and I talked about the budget this morning, I will talk to her a little bit tomorrow

morning. Chairman Lewis stated if there is money available I would respectfully request funds but I will let the Mayor and Council what that amount of funds are. Member Kovach stated anything, like I say we didn't have the money up until last year – we do have the income tax line, the majority was set to go to Safety but there. I am going to say 85% was headed to Safety and up to 15% to go here. So anyhow for other things in the general fund and parks.

**Madison Kovalik, 786 Maplewood Avenue** stated I just want to let you guys know that we are finalist in the “Bark for your Park” campaign. We are considered a small city of course. I have a couple of things that we printed out. This will give an idea of how many votes that some of the cities are getting or what we are competing with. Member Prokay asked is voting still open? Ms. Kovalik stated it closed the 10<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Bring asked are the other cities large or about the same size as ours? Ms. Kovalik answered 5 large, 5 mediums and 5 small and we are considered small. A female stated the one problem is the one city has their Metro Parks promoting it, the whole county is voting for them. I think our highest count was in the 1400 something and they had like 9000 something because they probably tell their employees to log in everyday and vote. So that is what we are competing with for the top prize but we are definitely in the running for the \$25,000.00 prize. Member Kovach stated it would be a start, normally when you get involved with things like this there will be other avenues to follow and pursue. You just start with a smaller project that's all. Member Prokay asked so what do you need from us? Ms. Kovalik stated keep promoting it and we need to get it in the papers and we need to get it on the TV. We are the only city in Ohio so we can promote on the TV stations. Parma was close but because they are a larger city, they had way more votes than we had but because they are a larger city they didn't get in because the larger cities had more votes than they had comparatively. We are the only city in Ohio. Member Kovach stated what I would do then is I would get in touch with John Edwards for the Avon Lake Press. Mayor Bring advised Jon Wysochanski is with the Chronicle. Mrs. Gee advised 9 am Wednesday, County Commissioners meeting. If we are the only one in this area, they are live and televised. They are over in Elyria and you can just show up and speak under citizen's commentary. Ms. Kovalik stated we have to make a video too. A female stated if your city is not one of the 15 finalist cities and you want to vote for whoever has got the cutest video or cutest dogs so we are going to have to come up with ideas for that. She did contact the person who runs the video club at the High School to see if they could help with that. Member Kovach advised you might want to contact another guy, Mark Cizl. Ms. Kovalik stated yes we know Mr. Cizl. Mayor Bring advised Mr. Cizl just setup ours. As a matter of fact we are ready to go with all of this. A female stated he has been voting so I know he would be excited to help, my son used to work with him at the video club. Member Kovach

stated what are doing tomorrow night? Female stated nothing. Member Kovach stated why don't you make a brief appearance at our Worksession because the whole of Council unless anybody is off from vacation or something will be here and Mark will be here and they will give you a few minutes. Chairman Lewis stated I will give you another name Mel Watson, she is the Producer at Channel 5 TV and she likes human interest stories. I have even been on there once. Mayor Bring stated I have a friend who knows the Producer of Channel 8 too. Dick Goddard is going to Columbus for the final vote for the pets so if it is in Ohio he might be a big advocate.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Albaugh to adjourn at 7:40 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 15, 2015.

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL  
*Rick Rosso*

*and/or*

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COUNCIL PRO TEM  
*Alan Smith*