

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
February 15, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, February 15, 2016. Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:07 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

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

Absent: Albaugh (excused)

Attending: Councilperson Gee, concerned citizens and Fire Lt. Davis

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to accept the minutes of the November 16, 2015 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS:**

*Julia Mohrbach, Pinewood Drive* stated I am here to present for the Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Egg Hunt which will be on March 20, 2016 at 1:30 pm at Gary Green Park. \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Prokay to approve Julia Mohrbach to proceed with the Sheffield/Sheffield Lake Egg Hunt at Gary Green Park on March 20, 2016. Yeas All.

**MAYOR/PARK SUPERINTENDENT/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

Mayor Bring reported the designated skate area, we actually got turned down for one of the grants and if you would like to know the reasoning I will tell you. They were afraid that somebody is going to get hurt. Member Kovach asked who did we apply with that? Mayor Bring answered there is federal grants that you can through and stuff like that. That is why I was hoping that Pat was going to come because he was going to explain it all to you and why and he went through all of this. But yes they are afraid people are going to get hurt so I guess you got to just stay home and play video games and you can't go outside anymore. Member Prokay stated so the people who provide this grant. Mayor Bring stated it wasn't the skate park group but it was us trying to apply for the money for this, I believe it was \$50,000.00 is what we applied for. Member Prokay stated which is money that can be used for anything else not necessarily skate park? Mayor Bring answered no it was specifically used for this which is what we applied for. Member Prokay stated I understand but they provide that money for other purposes besides. Mayor Bring answered there are other purposes but that was where we had to go through. Now we are trying to go through a different format and it is a different setup so we are trying to do that now and we will see what happens. Chairman Lewis asked were they afraid that they would get sued because they furnished the money? Mayor

Bring answered no and anyway I was very disappointed and I was just as astonished as you were. Memorial Park – we have done quite a bit to that and we will probably be looking at a few more things this next year. I think Rosa had talked to you about the area for doing like a flag burning celebration and some other things. So we are going to look at doing some kind of a concrete pad there with something that you can put the flags in. Last year we had to do it with a barrel and I know they want to do that on a yearly basis so we are going to try a little bit different thing – a little auditorium type thing and probably look at that and get somebody to draw that up and we will see how much that costs. The Brookside Bike Trail/Covered Bridge – Councilman Erdei had asked us to look into putting a sidewalk along the Shoreway Shopping Center. So we looked at tying that into the bike trails and making that a path all the way down to that and extending that and we got turned down for that. But now we are going through a different group, the same kind of theory and we are applying for that now and it will still be exactly the same one; about a five foot wide asphalt track just like we have for walking and everything. He just applied for that a few weeks ago so we are looking into doing that and it would be the same theory. Instead of having just a little concrete sidewalk we thought this would be a much better idea and then it would go all the way down to the Boat Launch and in turn you could do Bird Watching or whatever so we incorporated that all into it. So taking the bikes and going down there and site seeing and everything, so we are trying to do it a little bit avenue. Shell Cove Park – we applied for a grant to redo that deck down there with a very extensive boardwalk and reshoring up that area and also a walkway down there to make that handicap accessible. We have cleared I think 2 hurdles on that and so we are kind of hoping that that will continue the process, I think we have got 2 or 3 more processes to go through. But so far we have cleared a few hurdles for that so that is a good thing and that will be very nice and will incorporate the same thing with the Alumni Group to tie this all in. Like I said the biggest thing is handicap accessibility so people can actually go down there and they will be able to take a wheelchair and view the lake and there would be a guardrail. I think the boardwalk is going to be about 130 feet or somewhere around there and that should be nice if we can get that. We are going to put another pavilion up this year in Gary Green Park and probably a little bigger than what we did in Guenther Park. The one in Guenther Park was 24 X 36 and we are probably going to do this one 24 X 48 or somewhere around there. I don't think the width is bad but I think we need a little bit more length on that so more people could sit if they have a picnic and enjoy that. Then also the walkway over in Ferndale Park where we had to go over the wetlands there, we are going to try to cover that this year with a roof and then maybe put some lighting over there. That way if people are walking and they get over to Ferndale and it starts to rain or whatever then they could stop as is the same

thing with the covered bridge. If they have bikes or they are walking at least they have a little bit of safe place to stand until it blows over. I think Pat applied for a few more grants but I am not sure exactly what they are for but he has been working very hard to get more things for the parks. Member Prokay stated about the pavilion at Gary Green Park, how long before it actually happens? Mayor Bring answered summer time. Member Prokay stated do you think it might be ready by June 25? Mayor Bring answered I can't promise you that. Member Prokay stated I am actually thinking of maybe moving the Saturday in the Park Picnic to a different park. Mayor Bring stated if we do do that because we have to pour a pad and everything else so that would be the only thing that may be a holdup. We may be able to get the pavilion up but there may not be a concrete pad underneath it but there is a possibility and I will see if we can't do that. He continued also on that bike path we are trying to get equipment for stations for exercising, where you stop and workout a little bit and then move on. So we are trying to do some of that too. Member Gee asked on Memorial Park, has there been any thought about the World War I there, a statue or something? Mayor Bring answered we absolutely can do that. Member Gee stated I think that would be a great idea because that is what I think is missing. Mayor Bring stated I agree, do we just want a statue or a plaque or what do we want? Member Gee answered I would say a plaque and a statue. Councilperson Gee advised I applied for a Harley Davidson, World War I Harley Davidson donated the Harleys to use during World War I which was the first time we them during the war. So I sent out 1 letter to Harley Davidson asking if they would do the monument for us. Member Gee asked did you get any reply on that? Councilperson Gee answered I just sent it out, it takes about a month. Mayor Bring advised I agree that we need to recognize that because complete everything. He continued we are looking at some more things over at the Boat Launch/Park over there. We may do something down there, a pavilion down there in the grassy area also. We had quite a few people last year going down where the sand was and the rocks and actually having picnics but again I think if we had another area where they could actually put some picnic tables and have shelter I think we have even more people go down there. I think we need to do that instead of just having the boaters down there, I know the boaters enjoy going in and out of the ramp but I think people like to sit there and watch them. So if they have a little shelter out of the sun and rain and they can sit and watch that. So we have been talking about that too.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*Designated Skate Areas:* addressed above.

*Memorial Parks:* address above.

*Neighborhood Parks/Lakefront Parks/Grants, Gifts & Awards:* addressed above.

**Lakewood Beach Park: None.**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Memorial at Shell Cove** – Member Kovach stated Rick had brought up at the Council meeting that there is some other people that are really interested in getting involved with that. A lot of the other classes have students that have passed away. So he mentioned it and I said I would bring it up tonight. Mayor Bring advised they can contact me and I can pass that along or whatever they want to do as long as the information down here. Member Kovach stated I will probably bring that up at Worksession tomorrow too. Mayor Bring stated Mark Kudrow was part of the other thing that is going on, he has been collecting the money. They have got a tremendous response from that and they are going to put a walkway in over there too with landscaping.

**Member Prokay** – Members Prokay advised I have 2 things; submit the date for the Saturday in the Park Picnic. This year it will be June 25<sup>th</sup> and around the same time about 1 pm to about 6 pm. If at all possible changing the location, we have done it 2 years in a row now at Guenther but I was thinking maybe we could start moving over more towards the center so maybe this year we could try Gary Green Park. The other thing is I have been driving by Shoreway and I see the new sign that we have up there, nice and colorful and gives us the information on the shops that are in there now. How possible would it be to maybe do some landscaping in the center there? I know we setup the carnival every year but is it possible to have some kind of landscaping; trees maybe planted in the center that would pretty that area up a little bit? Member Kovach advised that would be Buildings & Lands.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:**

**Brad DeLuca, Sheffield Village** stated I am actually here representing the SSLYBA/Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Youth Baseball Association tonight. I apologize for not contacting in advance for the agenda. I wanted to pass along to you an idea that we wanted to present to the city, something that we would like to maybe start a discussion on. It involves Ferndale Park which is where we have a Baseball Diamond and our hope is that there could be an opportunity to do some improvements at the Park that would make it ready to be more often utilized and utilized in an improved way as something that could be a win-win situation. Where you would see your park being used more and I guess used more by an organized baseball/softball and then on our side of course it would be great because it would give us another location to work on things. We do have 5 fields over at Volunteer Field that is off of Oster over there and we are working on building a 6<sup>th</sup> field and we have talked to Sheffield Village over the last couple of years about the 2 fields they have at James Day. There is some improvements that they have made over there; the back stops, pitching mounds and they have allowed us to do some scheduling and things like that. We are hoping that something along those lines at

Ferndale. I think it is mostly summarized in that letter, sort of just a conversation starter – didn't come with blue prints or anything like that. Not that it is anything dramatic but just space for the kids to play is really what's a premium for us because we have been running at least 40 teams and I would say 444 or 450 players and once April rolls around that is a lot of people get their teams and players onto a field or area somewhere to get ready for games by the middle of May or so and then once we start to play our games in May then our fields are being used for games and not for practice and instruction. Any space that could be used as ready as possible or maximized for baseball and softball would be something that we would be really looking for and it would be a benefit for our players and something that would make us more competitive with other communities and some of the resources that they have the spaces that they have. Member Prokay asked so you would want the use of the baseball diamond that is currently at Ferndale for practice kind of thing? Mr. DeLucca answered right we wouldn't hold games over there, that sort of thing – just for practice and instruction. In the past some of our coaches have scheduled times over there or reserved times or just going over there when there wasn't anybody over there. They have said that lots of times there has been trouble with water and drainage that sort of thing which is common everywhere but if there is anything that could be done as we have some of those problems where we have gone out and regraded some of the in-fields and things like that. We have put down some different surface materials, things along that line and making sure that there are bases out there and portable restroom. That is something that parents get a little bit upset about if there isn't any restrooms. One thing that we proposed on there would be really unique if somehow it would be able to be accomplished in some of the additional space that is available over there now, would be some sort of training cage or roughly a batting cage but really could work on. You work on pitching or hitting it and that would be something that if we have anywhere in Sheffield Village or Sheffield Lake, that sort of thing. That would be a way in a smaller amount of space to have even more instruction because there is only so much you can do. That thing with baseball, it takes a lot space to work on. If you have 10 or 12 kids it takes a lot of space with balls and bats flying around. So when we say we have 5 fields and working on 6, that is not quite enough; it is just not something where you can put 3 teams out there. It is one of the nice things about basketball when they have the junior basketball they can put 3 or 4 teams on a court at one time. In baseball the one trick to getting more out of a smaller space is to have something like a cage and that way you can be hitting and pitching drills and that sort of thing. Member Prokay stated I know that we have had some other proposals for Ferndale Park. Mayor Bring advised the skate park is still going to be out front and wouldn't inhibit what is going on. There was a sign-up sheet that we have had and they have

used it for a practice field for the last 5 or 6 years and the one field we actually took down because it was really in bad shape so we are not going to use that one anymore. But that particular field probably wouldn't take a lot to get the drainage taken care of and I know there is a special clay or whatever they use for those fields because we worked on those ones over in the Village over there. We all worked on those for a long time because I helped build those buildings over there. I think there is a special clay and the gentleman that actually got that lives in our community so I can talk to Karl and see where he got that from and we can probably address that. Member Gee advised I think that is a good idea. Member Kovach asked is it your intent to have this for this season? Mr. DeLuca answered if that would be something that would be feasible on your end. Mayor Bring stated it wouldn't take a lot to get it done. Member Kovach stated I wouldn't see a problem with it, how quickly can your crew put together what they want to do? I mean the baseball field is there and you are just proposing to use it for what it has been used for. Member Prokay stated but also for maintenance? Mayor Bring advised the only thing is the porta-potty's we would have to take a long time lease for that for the summer time and take a look at how much that would cost. Some of the other things is really not that big of a deal. Member Gee advised we definitely need to look into this because that is a great idea. Mr. DeLuca stated traditionally the batting cage because usually they have them indoors, they would be like a netting but I know that might not be feasible. Mayor Bring stated that wouldn't work out there, we would have to have some kind of chain link fence. Most of the outdoors ones is where they have no supervision around, where you leave it overnight or something you would have to have chain link. Mr. DeLuca stated within the chain link then there could be some areas you put some rubber matting where the ball over time would keep hitting kind of the same and behind you would have to put some rubber for a backstop or down some of the sides because over and over a ball keep hitting some of those same places where the chain link would start denting. Mayor Bring stated we can get on the internet and look that up and see what they recommend. Mr. DeLuca stated so that would be it on my end. Member Kovach stated could you bring like plans and stuff for what you want to do to next month's meeting? Mr. DeLuca answered sure. \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to approve the use for the Sheffield-Sheffield Lake Youth Baseball Association and to bring forth plans as to what they would like to do with improving Ferndale Park including a potential batting cage. Yeas All. Mayor Bring advised you can just email me with anything you may have.

**Debbie Suarez, 811 Harris** stated I am just here tonight to let you know that we have a group of women who are continuing to do the Summer Art Program at the Community Center and we will be doing that for 6 weeks this summer starting June 13<sup>th</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup> and we have the kids come and they have to have a

parent who stays with them. We do art during that period from 12:30 to 2:00 or so and then on the last day we have accommodating activities of an Art Show where the community is invited. So we have reserved the Community Center with Pat already so I just wanted to let you know that we are doing that again. This is our third year, we started out the first year with about 20 to 25 kids and parents and last year we had 50+. So we are hoping this year to go with 65 and we will see how that works. So we may again ask for funding from the Civic Counsel which was very generous with us last year. A lot of things that we have done we have done with a lot of donated goods. I just wanted to let you know that we are doing that.

**Meg Dietz, Sheffield Village resident** stated I am here representing the SLCPC which is the Civic Pride Committee and Deb was here in October and she had spoke with you and said that she would give you some dates of things that we would be doing and that is why I am here tonight. We are going to be assisting Julia in any way that we can for Egg Hunt on March 20<sup>th</sup>. I had emailed Pat about Pride Day which is May 21<sup>st</sup> so we are in touch with him. Last year we worked, we had groups kind of all over. We started at the Boat Launch and we had so many people that came to help. We did continue working throughout the summer on the parks but we will be helping with Pride Day. We will be assisting Kathy with the Community Parade that is on the 21<sup>st</sup>. We are going to continue the Halloween Decorating Contest, I am not sure if you knew much about that but it was very successful and so we are planning on doing that again. Although we don't have dates for that quite yet. We are just kicking around the idea and I did email Pat about it and I think he may have forwarded it to you Mayor Bring but we are talking about a possibility of having an Evening on the Lake for adults. He did let me know that all of the Saturdays between May and August are taken right now over by the Community Center but a Friday evening may work. So we are just in the very beginning stages, just tossing around possible ideas for that. The Christmas Tree Lighting event, we just had it this year and it was our second year. We are looking to doing that again next year and we are looking at November 27<sup>th</sup> which is a Saturday after Thanksgiving and we gave that date to Pat. This year we are hoping that Rosa and her husband are so generous, so we are wondering where a good place to plant a tree would be? The first year we decorated here and this year we were by Shell Cove but we are kind of looking at a smaller tree; 6 or 7 foot tree but what we would like to do then is to go back to the Community Center depending on where we plant the tree. We would like to ultimately end up with Santa back at the Community Center and have cookies and hot chocolate for the kids and possibly a craft and a photo-op with Santa. So that is kind of where we are right now but we are looking for some suggestions on where we could possibly plant the tree. I don't know if there is a place at the Community Center that would be the next place. Member Kovach stated I would think Shell Cove over by the

new memorial. Mayor Bring stated the only problem is at Shell Cove is when that wind came off the lake last year even though I was sick by the time I got there but it was freezing. The little kids were frostbit. I would like to do something over at the Civic Center and I saw the email. I will be honest with you I would like to get a tree service, one of those spades and get a bigger one maybe 15 or 20 foot and see if we can't acquire that. There is a few people that I know that have those things. I would like to do something over by the Civic Center and we will figure out where we can put that. Someplace where the kids can all go and enjoy that and then maybe for a backup maybe we could have something inside. Maybe a little tree inside there – fake one for the kids to go inside too afterwards. Mrs. Dietz stated like a little evening event. Mayor Bring stated yes inside and it would be a little bit more enjoyable and he quipped, that way the Mayor won't freeze to death either. Member Prokay stated what was the problem with the big tree because that was so nice to drive by and see it. Mayor Bring answered it was nice to drive by but the kids could only reach up about 5 feet and it was really bigger round and the wind that was coming off was very cold that day. Mrs. Dietz stated Pat went previous to the lighting and strung all the lights up for us. I think hang some decorations that were decorated earlier but there is only so far they can go. It was beautiful and I think a lot of people were able to enjoy it when they were driving by. Mayor Bring stated we are still going to do that with that tree as far as decorating it but in the Civic Center there is restrooms for the kids. So I think it would just be a little bit nicer and like I said if the kids get cold we can just go inside and make an evening out of that. I think it will be a lot nicer. Mrs. Dietz stated the parking was an issue. Mayor Bring concurred there isn't a lot of parking over there.

**Councilperson Rosa Gee, 272 Gayle Drive** stated this is Julie's second year on doing the Egg Hunt in the park, just a friendly reminder to everybody they need plastic Easter Egg's donated and they need candy already prewrapped donated and they also need miscellaneous egg fillers and to my knowledge all of this can be dropped off at the Fire Station again. Any donations if you get a hold of Julie on Facebook or somewhere else, she will let you know what they still need. Fire Lt. Davis advised no monetary donations to the Fire Department though. Just eggs, candy and miscellaneous fillers.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to adjourn at 7:43 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*

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 February 15, 2016.

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**PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL**

*Rick Rosso*