

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
September 26, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, September 26, 2016. Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Lewis, Albaugh, Kovach, Gee, Mayor Bring, Superintendent Hastings

Absent: Prokay

Attending: Councilperson Gee, Civic Pride Committee: Debbie Suarez

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Albaugh to accept the minutes of the August 15, 2016 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE: None.**

**PRESENTATIONS: None.**

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

Superintendent Hastings advised I appreciate rescheduling, the point of the meeting so that we could move forward with your permission of the grant on the observation deck. I included the notice of award that we received, this small exhibit for you to take a look at on where it is going. Then just the cover page on some of the grant work that I did. I wanted to clarify the total project cost which I think has been explained correctly at \$85,000.00. Then it is basically a 50/50 share so when I expressed to the Mayor that our expenses are approximately \$20,000.00 that is accurate as far as out of pocket because we included in this in-kind work which would the ODOT rates on heavy machinery and trucks, dump trucks, our hourly wages, our benefits package. So I tried to lesson the burden on the budget by including all the things that we have in operation. As we had used the gift of the estate, in the past for the other grant, so too I would request from the Park Board to allow me that same opportunity where we would authorize in this case up to an \$85,000.00 expenditure, actually it could be \$80,000 I don't need it all of which \$42,525.00 would be refunded once the project was complete. I can report that at the pump track where you authorized \$30,000.00 to match the \$30,000.00 grant could come in under budget and we spent \$23,746.00 to complete that project. So we will be returning \$20,000.00 back, which I think has already gone through appropriations. I just have to finalize with some photos to the committee. But if you were in agreement with that approach on doubling our money for these grants, this is another wonderful opportunity that actually Councilperson Rosa Gee

forwarded to me some time ago. Then I would request the authority to utilize the funds again, again at about \$80,000.00 returning \$42,525.00 upon completion.

\*Motion by Lewis/Second by Albaugh to authorize Superintendent Hastings the amount noted to cover the observation deck and the handicap approach at the Shell Cove Park. Yeas All. Mayor Bring advised we have a year to complete this project and I don't know if it was when we actually got the notification or how that works. Superintendent Hastings answered no they were three month's behind. Mayor Bring asked so did they give us those three month grace period? Superintendent Hastings answered no but they let me know informally that they will allow us some time. I never had the Mayor sign anything, the next round of paperwork for the Mayor's signature to enter into contract as I obviously had to make sure that you folks were in agreement as far as the money. So I will send this off now with the Mayor's signature. I have already been down there and done test excavations to find the clay for the shale to set the footers in and because it is a public deck and we are moving forward with the stamped engineers print on that. Just because it is many government agencies involved so I want to make sure that we are covered. I could briefly tell you the rest of the parks, the pump track is coming to a conclusion, I have reached out to the ramp company. We do have two grind rails and a box coming, albeit getting late in the season. The improvements for Erie Shore Park as far as the bicycle equipment, we do have the sign, we have the stands and the racks. I am just waiting for the poles and in the meantime, we poured a concrete pad and we should be very unique in Sheffield Lake. It is a fantastic addition and ironically part of the Master Plan I read. I have even shared some of that information with the county on the Lakefront Initiative grant that the city is involved and they seem very interested as well. So it might be the spearhead of something to match all the way down the 23 miles along with Lorain County. We are working with Soccer right now. At Guenther Park assisting with a kick wall for advertising and practicing and so forth, the Mayor approved us to do the labor if they bought the material which we started and you will see that behind the pavilion way back. The pavilion here at Gary Green will be poured this week, weather permitting and we have all the grills to go in as well this week weather permitting as we had a lot of rain coming. Unfortunately, the dog park grant, we did not receive. There was five grants awarded across the entire United States with hundreds of cities and we applied only for the grand prize of \$25,000.00, the other ones were maintenance or additions to the grant. So you had the opportunities to get that, but we don't have anything to start with. So I am back to square one on that, but I do have some designs for that as well as other improvements in the park. I would be happy to share at the next meeting. The only other thing maintenance wise is we are exploring replacing the roof on the maintenance building on Warwick Drive, that is very old. Also the shed at Guenther, they also bought all the

materials for that when they bought the kick wall. So that will also be done, I know that was brought up by Joe and Rosa. So they do have those materials as well.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

*Designated Skate Areas: discussed within report.*

*Memorial Parks: None.*

*Lakefront Parks/Grants, Gifts & Awards: discussed within report.*

*Shell Cove Park: discussed within report.*

*Erie Shore Park: discussed within report.*

*Westshore Park: discussed within report.*

*Boat Launch: None.*

*Neighborhood Parks: discussed within report.*

*Guenther Park: discussed below.*

*Freedom Park: discussed below.*

**Gary Green Park:**

Member Gee stated about the basketball hoops at the Gary Green Park, the Ladies Auxiliary of VFW are interested in helping with the basketball hoops. The VFW had adopted that park years ago and they are interested in helping out with that. Member Kovach advised yes, as a matter of fact, they had adopted it when we did the renovation, it was in the plans that they wanted to be responsible for the annual upkeep on it as I recall. They had volunteered to do that when we originally redid it. Superintendent Hastings clarified is that the quote that I forwarded or was that to a different group. Member Gee verified yes. Superintendent Hastings explained just so the Park Board is aware, I had those quotes already built and forwarded on to that committee for their review/donation. I had originally told the Mayor that we were buying for Gary Green and Freedom Parks but I had forgotten that I had to also buy for the pump track so I put those on hold in really watching the budget truthfully. That is why it is up for receiving a donation now, so they would certainly be purchased next year if this doesn't pan out.

Member Kovach asked had you given any further thought to what I had suggested as far as getting the plastic squares? Mayor Bring advised it is either that, but we are also going to get a quote from either Griffith or whoever and maybe just see what a skim coat of asphalt will be too over there. Superintendent Hastings asked do you know where it would find that information, I can't find it? Member Kovach advised where I originally saw this was in the City of Brooklyn, they have like a Rec Center and behind it, they have like all open outdoor with; basketball courts, field hockey and tennis. It is all like I say, the whole thing was done and that would be the place you might contact them.

Member Albaugh stated back in winter/spring we talked about making like a snow-riding hill so we wouldn't have to go over to the Village or somewhere else, do we still plan on doing that? Member Kovach stated, we actually talked about an ice-skating pond. Mayor Bring answered no we are going to do something else. Member Albaugh stated we were talking about making a sled riding hill that kids could ride on. Mayor Bring stated the ice pond is going to be probably where the pump track is temporarily, we are probably going to put that out there. But the sled hill is still a possibility – yes. If you look at what is going on right now, that area right there and I don't know how many truck loads of dirt we have already put there and it is basically level. Member Albaugh stated I figured with this project and other projects going on you could just throw some contractor grass down and make a hill out of it. Mayor Bring advised it was going to take a lot of dirt, but that is still probably a possibility. Superintendent Hastings advised I think some of our original ideas were even a dirt BMX track way back when we started dumping there. The problem is those soils are very inconsistent, a lot of it is water breaks and it is like perpetually wet, so to shape it is tricky, you really bulldoze it in. Member Kovach quipped too much asphalt in there. Superintendent Hastings stated that we try to keep out. Member Albaugh stated I would just like to see due to so much activity over that area, if we could keep the activity going throughout the winter time. Superintendent Hastings stated I believe the Mayor had mentioned in some committees a skating rink, a portable one which at first I was having trouble finding but I finally found some links and they go from \$400 to a basic one up to several thousand where it has like a raised guard around it and I will be showing you that for review. You know that pump track for sustainability should be taken down and then that pad would be the ideal location for a skating rink, so we would use the park year round. Member Albaugh stated yes I have some people ask me about that too, like playing hockey and stuff. Superintendent Hastings advised there used to be a pond in front of there and that little building was the ice house, it had baseboard heating in there back in the 80's and was very popular. Mayor Bring stated I will honest with you, we started dumping all that dirt and I thought we had a lot of dirt there and then when they leveled it off I was like wow. Member Kovach quipped dirt kind of like sinks. Mayor Bring stated well it is surprising, but to make that mound, we are talking about doing some stuff behind the Service Department and moving all that dirt. Member Kovach stated what we need is a mound like we had over by Tennyson. Member Gee asked is there any news on moving the pump track to the Bowling Alley, is that still in the works? Superintendent Hastings answered it is definitely in the works, yes, but we would have to consider some kind of monitoring program for one and then if the Mayor wanted to have us entertain fixing the water. The building is winterized essentially so are we providing restrooms, there are sections that would have to be closed off

albeit a temporary fence in there really. The idea is kind of neat, it is just a big open floor. Mayor Bring quipped rollerblading. Member Albaugh advised keep them active, that is what I am saying. Mayor Bring stated you know they play hockey on blacktop too, you could do the same thing in there too. Superintendent Hastings advises you could think bigger and fund it into a recreation facility.

*Ferndale Park: discussed within report.*

*Grants, Gifts & Awards: discussed above.*

***Bike Trail & Covered Bridge:*** Chairman Lewis asked on the bike trail, you were talking about lighting the bridge? Superintendent Hastings answered it is lit. Member Kovach stated no I think you had made some comments about possibly lighting the trails. Mayor Bring advised we talked about that a long time ago, I think that is a solar lighting thing and I think that we will start looking more of that. I was just reading that they are looking to do more of that type of energy saving project so I am sure there is going to be something available to us but no we have not done anything. Yes, that is still in my mind and actually that was brought up a couple years ago and I do agree with that. The only thing is we are going to have to be careful for some of the residents and stuff and have down-casting and probably some kind of LED lighting. Chairman Lewis stated you are talking about the bridge itself (walking trail) putting lights on. Mayor Bring answered the one that we walk over top of. Superintendent Hastings advised that has solar lights on it, motion driven. Mayor Bring added, but I would like to put the roof over top of that and then incorporate some lighting, kind of like what we did over here too. I actually wanted to put the roof over that this year and we didn't get a chance to do it, there were just too many things going on.

**NEW BUSINESS: None.**

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:**

***Debbie Suarez, Civic Pride Committee,*** stated I just wanted to kind of let you know what was in the works for Halloween Contest and for the Christmas Tree Lighting. We have set dates for the Halloween decorating contest and that is going to be October 22 and 23 when they will be judged. The rain date for those evenings is the 24<sup>th</sup> and prices will be announced on the 26<sup>th</sup> and they will be awarded on the 30<sup>th</sup>. So that is where I come with my hand out, we are going around to businesses and we are asking business to participate and to donate \$25.00 and the letters have been sent out and we will follow that up with visits to see what we can get from our business community. We were hoping to get and I think \$200.00 is like nothing after hearing about thousands of dollars, so we are asking for \$200.00 to

help with prize money. It was so well received last year, people got so excited about it and I think it is continuing on with all the other good things that are happening in the city. So if we can get your support and like I said we are asking for \$200.00 to help with that. She continued the Christmas Tree Lighting, thank you so much for the tree it looks fabulous and we are so excited about that tree that is in front of the Community Center. Mayor Bring stated, let's just hope it makes another couple of months, it is a little stressed because we put that in in extreme heat. Mrs. Suarez stated well the rains are here, so we will keep our fingers crossed. She continued I also had a question, the city has put up the lights on the tree the last couple of years. Can we plan on you doing that again this year? Mayor Bring answered yes. Mrs. Suarez advised Christmas Tree Lighting is set for November 26 which is a Saturday after Thanksgiving. We are working with a Girl Scout who is working on a badge so she is going to do a party with the kids at the same time. Just wanted to let you know that. So I am asking for a handout.

\*Motion by Gee/Second by Albaugh to give Debbie Suarez \$200.00 to aid in Halloween Contest 2016. Yeas All.

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

\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to adjourn at 7:22 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.

---

CLERK OF COUNCIL

*Kay Fantauzzi*

---

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 September 26, 2016.

---

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Rick Rosso*