

**Minutes of the Park Board
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
June 21, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, June 21, 2021. Chairman Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Lewis, Wright, Gee, Mayor Bring, Superintendent Hastings, Council Representative Kovach.

Excused: Dailey.

Attending: Citizen.

MINUTES: *Motion by Gee/Second by Wright to accept the minutes of the May 17, 2021 meeting as written. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

MAYOR REPORT/SUPERINTENDENT REPORT: Mayor Bring has no report.

SUPERINTENDENT – PARK/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS:

Memorial Park: Superintendent Hastings reports the city has purchased a new playground to replace the existing one originally installed in 1986. It is scheduled to be in in September of this year. It has patriotic colors and theme.

Freedom Park: Superintendent Hastings reports we are expanding the parking in coordination with the road repaving on South Dr.

Ferndale Park: Superintendent Hastings reports I haven't heard back from the interested group on the expansion of the skate park. I did reach out to American Ramp, and they have design services. I need plans and estimated dollar figures to find the money, I cannot just blindly do that. I am working on hiring them. Their traditional fee is \$7,000, but I go them down to \$2,500. I have yet to get that approval from the mayor. Member Wright asks that fee is just for design services? Superintendent Hastings replies yeah, it would be something concrete so I could go after funding. I had a meeting with the rotary club and friends of the library, and they desire to help fund what is called a storybook trail. Avon has one. Basically, a portion of our nature trail is designed for our youth to walk along the trail and there is a series of stations that they read a story as they walk. I visited the one at Findley State Park and they even have some characters along the way. The idea is that the story can change multiple times per year, they are in a glass case. The intention is to have a looped trail. The idea based on the first meeting is they would enter on the west side of Ferndale Park which otherwise ends at a big farm gate, and probably pave the trail to connect to the existing and they would walk around to the front of the park with about 17 stops. It is yet to be determined. They are pursuing the funding for the actual stations and books, it's about \$6,000. They asked if the city is receptive and could contribute. I think it would be a good candidate for our new park construction funds. There would be a big sign when

you enter, and we are talking with our woodshop about helping with that. It would be necessary to get the blessing of the park board, both on the project and to potentially use those funds of which there is about \$10,000. Member Wright asks the entire system would be in one park? Superintendent Hastings replies yeah, just in Ferndale. We have surveillance there already, which we might enhance if this goes in.

Gary Green Park: Superintendent Hastings reports I have a pending grant with the Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources for a splashpad.

Guenther Park: Superintendent Hastings reports maintenance.

Erie Shore Park: Superintendent Hastings reports maintenance, although we did have some vandalism to our bike stop/repair station. They stole our hoses. We will be replacing those.

Boat Launch: Superintendent Hastings has no report.

Shell Cove Park: Superintendent Hastings reports we have a slight drainage problem in front of the ship. We are going to work towards potentially running a drain right to the lake from there. While doing that, I would back track to Gary Green Park where we are thinking of having that piece of equipment on rental and using it to run electricity underground. The nearest power supply is near the parking lot, a distance away from the pavilion. We have talked about cameras there and the mayor wants to pursue that. If by chance we get the grant for a splashpad, we will have security for it.

West Shore Park: Superintendent Hastings reports maintenance. The city continues to acquire property across the street from the community center.

Lakewood Beach Park: Superintendent Hastings reports maintenance. We did get an email from a resident about some standing water. I was down there today taking photos. It is predominately the sand, it happens often. There is some brush and debris, so I have that on our schedule to be removed.

Brookside Nature Trail & Covered Bridge: Superintendent Hastings reports this project is pretty wrapped up out front. However, we do have some erosion just south of the covered bridge that we will be addressing through Armor Stone. We are stockpiling some concrete at our beach down at community to remove and use on that project. I had to bring a dumpster in at the boat launch due to the volume of driftwood. We had the boat launch dredged this year and it came in at a cost of \$25,000. That was reduced on the price per yard as well as mobilization fees because we were able to utilize the services of a local resident. We saved \$5-10,000 and I thank Mr. Scarpelli for that. While he was there, he and some service guys identified the farthest jetty out has a cavern/cave where the stones have either washed away or shifted and it is affecting the navigation light at the farthest point out. We are researching bringing more Armor Stone in by barge at an estimated cost of \$11,000. This is to fortify that and make it safe. I hope to move on that in July.

Lincoln Nature Trail: Superintendent Hastings reports USACE was on site to identify/confirm the wetlands. I still need a permit from them before ODNR will

fund the grant. I'm getting a little nervous because I have to have it built by the end of the year.

Pier behind Community Center: Superintendent Hastings reports we do not have any movement on this currently. Again, I need plans and estimated cost, I can't blindly write grants. I tried to write a grant through Coastal Management to help fund engineering, but it wasn't well received.

OLD BUSINESS: Member Wright states one of your staff approached me and said they highly recommend before the installation of the playground equipment at Memorial Park, that drainage be addressed there as well. Superintendent Hastings replies we have two storm sewers that could traverse it, one east and west and one north and south. As I understand, the wetland is in the center of the park, not near the playground. We actually have a pipe we installed two years ago from Roberts. Member Wright states I know we have talked about clearing the southern fence line at Guenther Park and I know that some of that started. There was maybe a 40ft. run on the western section that had been brush hogged about 2 years ago. I was wondering if that was on the plate at all and if not, is there anyway, I know the soccer league could put a workforce together to do the clearing. I know there is insurance and legal implications, so I was wondering what we could do.

Superintendent Hastings asks what is the advantage of it? Member Wright replies to create more green space. Superintendent Hastings asks more fields or just more green space? Member Wright responds for fields. One of the issues there is difficulty rotating the fields. Especially the goalie boxes and center circle, those tend to get chewed up the most. In order to shift those fields around and protect those areas and keep the fields nice and green, it's difficult. We have done it in the past. The trick can be either running them east and west or north and south. When we turn fields north and south, a lot of balls fly into traffic or the woods. It would just give us more room to mangle the fields. Superintendent Hastings says the original playground equipment that we moved and consolidated over by the pavilion/new playground over there, I don't see that being used. Member Wright says no, because it's not even or very level from where that old playground equipment was. You could pull the field into it, but there is risk of kids rolling ankles, etc. Superintendent Hastings asks doesn't it make more sense to improve an existing grass area as opposed to the trees? Member Wright replies sure would, one thing though is that wood line is a breeding ground for mosquitos. That's just an inconvenience and nothing bug spray won't help. Mayor Bring says taking the trees down and grinding them up isn't a big deal, but it's all the stumps and everything else. We have to rent one of those stump grinders, we don't own one and they are pretty expensive. Superintendent Hastings asks in the short term, could we walk the area where you might be able to expand fields and the former playground area? I could have that clear cut and bring in the appropriate soil and grade it. Member Wright replies absolutely. I don't know how much an erosion control system would help, the efforts at the lake front parks, specifically the driftwood and dredging, etc., there is a program the county was offering loans to people on the lake front. Is that something the city would entertain? Superintendent

Hastings replies I don't know if we are part of that special improvement district. Member Wright says I'm pretty sure it's open to all public and private entities. The map looked like it is the entirety of the coastline statewide. Mayor Bring responds there is something going on right now with the county and erosion control. You have to be in an adjacent city with another one, going together to make that work as far as borrowing the money, etc. There is quite a bit involved in it. Avon Lake is going through the process and have been working on it for 4-5 months. I'm going to see what they are going to do, and we may jump on board. Member Wright says I spoke to someone from the county awhile back and they said they felt like the Avon Lake legislative process was coming to a close.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: Frank Mills, 3614 Devonshire Ave. states we just moved in. One reason we moved is because of lake side park and we no sooner moved in, and all the trees were cut down and erosion started. There needs to be landscaping. It is in pretty bad shape with standing water and trash collecting through the gully. There is a number of branches collecting there and it needs cleaned up and landscaping. I noticed the other day that the fence had been knocked down as well. Lastly, there is no signage. Mayor Bring replies it was stolen. Mr. Mills replies the story is that the trees were cut down because someone in the condos there complained about them. Superintendent Hastings responds that is not true. Mayor Bring says it is on our list. It is a mess and every time we fix it up, part of the reason is it's an outfall, which is why it was cleaned up. The other reason is because the police can now drive by and see everything down there. The debris got picked up today. Mr. Mills says mentioning the police, we were there the other day and there was a group there not from Sheffield Lake, and they had taken over the whole beach. It's a small park and there are issues, I don't know how to address it necessarily, landscaping is one thing, and the other is how do you control the beach? Mayor Bring replies it's public property, so if someone wants to go on the beach, they can go on the beach. If they are doing something wrong, then call the police. We are working on it, but these projects take time. We had a \$3,000 sign there and they stole that. We are talking about doing a mural on the rocks there.

\MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Kovach/Second by Wright to adjourn at 7:25 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
Brandy Randolph

CHAIRMAN
James Lewis

I, Brandy Randolph, 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 21, 2021.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
Rick Rosso