

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
March 20, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, March 20, 2023. Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Wright, Gee, Mayor Bring, Service Director Hastings, Council Representative Kovach.

Excused: Dailey, Fritz.

Attending: None.

**MINUTES:** \*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to accept the minutes of the February 20 ,2023 meeting as written. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None.

**MAYOR REPORT:** Mayor Bring has no report.

**SERVICE DIRECTOR / PARK/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS:**

Service Director Hastings reports we have a city sponsored Easter egg hunt April 1<sup>st</sup> at the community center that starts at noon. We have a craft show going on inside who is working to have the bunny available. I submitted a grant on behalf of the city to pave the entrance of the new storybook trail. I did get the sponsorship of the Lorain Library System, Northcoast Rotary, Friends of Domonkas Library as well as a local church. The city contracted with NCW to dredge our boat launch this year. The initial figure is \$20,000. However, last year that number was \$30,000. The number is all based on how much sand comes in. I did get a couple quotes for the servicing of the basketball courts at Gary Green and Freedom and I would like to incorporate a painting scheme on Freedom's court to include pickleball and research some type of temporary netting that can possibly be retracted into the pole. Internally, we are getting our mowers ready for the season. We are erecting the fence at Erie Shore Park and we are rehabilitating picnic tables. I am going to submit a grant for our attempt at the funding of a splash pad. Chairman Wright asks why do you think the pickleball would be better at Freedom? Service Director Hastings replies based on the dynamics of who I see there, parking, etc. Chairman Wright asks do you have any concerns about security at Freedom with those posts and stuff versus Gary Green? Do you ever have problems with kids tagging the parks/storage building there and stuff like that? Service Director Hastings responds we don't. That building is used by our water dept. now. We can pursue cameras in that park, and we keep expanding. Gary Green was expanded and successfully used to apprehend the kid toting a bb gun. The security system we put up was the key to that and I anticipate expanding into Freedom Park as well.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Chairman Wright says basically this is focused on Erie Shores Park and our initiative there to redesign and recreate a passive recreation experience. I got copies made of Mr. Kudrin's design and passed them out. I am going to go over some examples on the big screen and talk about what he has drawn in. In the northwest corner he has boxwoods and sunpatiens. My question is the sunpatiens are an annual, is that something that the city would want to mess with because they have to be planted every year? I went through the plant selection, and he chose gorgeous plants that serve multiple functions. Mayor Bring says I am a little concerned about the boxwood. They have an issue with wind and cold and that is directly there, and they will be getting blasted. Plus, they are temperamental to salt, etc. I would probably choose another plant there. I think we would have to replant them often. Chairman Wright states I like the sunpatiens and it's something we could do on Pride Day every year. I did not get prices on this yet. Are any of these the same as at Shell Cove? Mayor Bring replies I'm not sure. Board has short discussion on the types of plants in the drawing. Chairman Wright says at the very entrance to the park is a little kiosk that's got the Sheffield Lake zoning map in there and I would personally love to see it come down, I think it's an eyesore. The design assumes that it will not be there. Mayor Bring replies people use that to sit because there is a roof on it. Chairman Wright states when you look at the design Mr. Kudrin did, over to the left is pavilion seating. The idea is to utilize the current concrete pad where we have those picnic benches and install a small pavilion with some seating. There are trees that say TBD and that little triangle in this area and there are two existing trees there that I think cast a lot of shade and I'm not sure that anything needs to be considered or added there. We remove the kiosk and have a 6ft. wide walkway put in that makes it inclusive, meaning if two people in wheelchairs were passing each other, they could do so without any difficulty. Member Dailey had a great idea of towards the beginning having one of those free libraries and maybe something attached to it to hold sidewalk chalk. You would have a walking path that essentially connects Route 6 with the back of the park and Edgewater, and you have a walk that comes in from the east at the northside of the park, the fence at the westside and the only other thing on here that's questionable is I had an idea of separating our bicycle waystation from the rest of the park. That's probably the lowest on the list of priorities. None of this is to scale, it's just a conceptual sketch. I would like to start talking to some people and getting ideas on pricing, amounts of top soil, etc. How would you suggest going about that? Would anyone like to meet me there? Service Director Hastings replies Jerry probably would in our park dept. You are easily at \$25,000 for this and that is with us doing a majority of the labor. Chairman Wright says I will call and ask for donations and see how much people would be willing to give. So, how and when do we determine the dimensions of these beds and what it's gonna take to construct them by way of materials? Mayor Bring replies the three of us can meet over there. Service Director Hastings states I will include Jerry too. He is very well versed in plants; I was quite impressed. Member Gee had

mentioned fruit trees and I am in favor of them too. I would like to keep that on the table.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Wright asks we talked about a Rec Director and it seemed that was gaining some steam, is there plans for that this year? Mayor Bring replies we recently talked about that and are mildly concerned about the economy right now. We will have a better feel for that probably in July. We are concerned about what is going to happen and will be watching the money. It's definitely not out of the picture. Service Director Hastings says the community center is hosting a meeting this Wednesday at 6pm. The concept behind it is to reach out to the community and fill some daytime slots with various activities and recreational ideas. We have not abandoned the idea of combining the recreation director with the position I do over there, management. That meeting will further the goal I believe. When we talk about the gardening and so forth, I was just in a meeting with Lorain County Beautiful and those are resources we can use if there is an interest in that as a result of this meeting. Mayor Bring says I am going to be asking people for their thoughts and you are more than welcome to talk about the rec director, etc. and get people's reactions.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Gee to adjourn at 7:36 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

*Brandy Randolph*

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CHAIRMAN

*Jonathan Wright*

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 March 20, 2023

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Rick Rosso*