

**Minutes of the Park Board  
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio  
August 21, 2023**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, August 21, 2023. Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:**

Present: Wright, Fritz, Council Representative Kovach.

Excused: Gee, Keely, Mayor Bring, Service Director Hastings.

Attending: Kathy Kovach.

**MINUTES:** \*Motion by Kovach/No second to accept the minutes of the May 15, 2023 meeting as written. Yeas All.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None.

**PRESENTATIONS:** None.

**MAYOR REPORT:** See below.

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

Excused.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Representative Kovach asks how are you coming with the donations at Erie Shore? Chairman Wright replies I approached two people and filled out request forms and I never got a response. I talked to the service director about it and he said regardless if they come in or not, he is going to get going on that park and anticipated starting this month. Last I went by, the fence was up and complete, a lot of what they had hacked down is starting to grow back, but we are waiting to really break ground on that project. Now is not the greatest time to plant.

**CITIZENS COMMENTARY:** *Kathy Kovach, 850 Hollyview Dr.* says the parks are close to my heart. Things that have been happening in the parks is hurtful to everybody, the damage, etc. and the police have been turning their heads. The last meeting it was brought up that they found a culprit. The dog park where Steve was very big starting that, to see people are not taking care of their dogs, I hate the fact we may have to close it because people won't pickup after themselves. I have trouble breathing, but I love going down to the lake and I can't go down to my own lake that often, the boat launch, because I have so much trouble coming back up. I want to suggest they put a railing in. Chairman Wright says with the railing and other items, it seems every time we do something new in the parks, the kids start beating it up. Representative Kovach states it has been some adults too. Chairman Wright says I think when it comes to people mistreating our parks, the only real solution is more people using the parks. Mrs. Kovach replies people are afraid to use them. You have these teenagers intimidating people. You call the police and they say kids are kids, I guess that's the response they are getting. Representative Kovach says we must realize that the city only has three police officers on duty at any one time and if they aren't there and don't see it, there's not much they can do

about it. Chairman Wright says something we may be able to help with is the railing at the boat launch. We will put a note for Pat that we would like to request a railing to be installed between the sidewalk and boat ramp on the eastern side of the boat launch.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Chairman Wright says I met with a park salesman and talked about some ideas I had in mind. I want to show you guys some of the ideas. I think after Erie Shores is complete, I want to know what your prospective is on what is our next priority. For me, I would like to see us focus on the community center. It is beautiful there but the one thing still dated is the playground. I brought the sales rep there because I wanted to show you guys some state-of-the-art stuff that I think would look amazing there. A lengthy discussion ensues with Chairman Wright proceeding to show/discuss the items he is talking about on a power point. Chairman Wright states Shell Cove is such a beautiful park that I'd love to take elements at Shell Cove and tie them into our other parks. I believe it is the crown jewel of our park system. I think Ferndale needs a new playground. I would like your thoughts on a gazebo at Veteran's Memorial Park. There is a ceremony there every Memorial Day and to have a gazebo and shade for speakers, etc. would be great. I'm sure the mayor would like to have something to say about it, because I know he had connections creating the pavilions that have already gone in. There may be an opportunity for us to save a considerable amount of money. Then we could have all shelters that look the same. I think that adds a touch of class. I once did the numbers and with all new state of the art equipment, basically the most expensive equipment you can find, to do all of the parks would cost less than a road project. That's not saying those projects aren't necessary. My point being is when it comes to civic projects, parks are kind of on the less expensive end. Representative Kovach says we may want to talk about handicap equipment. Chairman Wright replies absolutely. The newer equipment at Shell Cove Park, there is an ADA wheelchair ramp that is on one side of the playground, and I believe this is why the board needs more input on design and layout, because if you were to come off that playground which is elevated, the ramp is a 10in decline, and if you were to come down that, it goes straight into the drop off into the walkway from the parking lot to the observation deck. A simple fix would be to pick the ramp up and move it from the west side to the south side. Then if a child in a wheelchair loses control, they will roll safely into grass and not down a hillside. It would also be nice to move that ramp and then build an ADA walk. I understand why it was put where it was, because it the ramp comes from ground level into the playground and right into the ADA transfer station. Everything that we design should have inclusion in mind. Representative Kovach says the garden we put in, even though it's not a park, my one problem is that we need 2-3 more of them in each of the parks. It has been a good start and it went well and was designed well. Chairman Wright says I couldn't agree more.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** With no further business before this committee,  
\*Motion by Kovach/Second by Fritz to adjourn at 7:45 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 August 21, 2023

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PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

*Rick Rosso*