

**Minutes of the Park Board
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
February 16, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, February 16, 2026. Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Wright, Fritz (late), Keely, Barker, Council Representative Kovach, Rec Director Pederson.

Excused: Mayor Radeff, Service Director Hastings.

Attending: Councilman Fogel, citizens.

MINUTES: *Motion by Keely/Second by Barker to accept the minutes of the January 12, 2026 meeting with noted correction of adjournment motion by Keely/Second by Fritz. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

MAYOR REPORT: Mayor Radeff is excused.

SERVICE DIRECTOR REPORT: Service Director Hastings is excused.

PARK/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS: Rec Director Pederson reports I just want to let you guys know we are close to finalizing and getting started with Rec Desk. There's a whole bunch of training that I've been doing. I think it should be one of my final ones on Wednesday coming up. So, that should be finalized, hopefully, by the end of this month. I attended Ohio Parks and Rec conference at the beginning of this month. It was very eye opening. There was networking, some really cool sessions. One of my favorite ones was cost recovery and marketing. Trying to kind of get other people's insights on how they do things, not just the presenters, but getting to chat with some local people afterwards as well. There was a cool one that was a thousand themes for programs, events. Really helped kind of open my eyes to what some other people are doing and get ideas for what we can do here, what might work, what won't work here. Also, I have to remember when I go to these things that I meet some people, and they're like, we're a department of 12 full-time staff and I'm like, well, we're a smaller town. We're getting our feet wet and making sure that we put on some programming and events for the citizens here. So, my hope in the next few weeks, you guys will see on Facebook, and we'll be publishing the calendar of kind of what's going on, the big events this year, as far as the movie nights, the kids' play dates, the series of those. There will be 5 of them again this year; food truck festivals. I'd like to have some bigger celebration, and I know Pat's not here to ask him more if he knows, but I would like to do something

with Guenther Park once the splash pad opens, possibly get some music involved. I talked with the police chief this morning at the coffee group, just kind of about ideas. Then he threw back certain things that I'd have to take into consideration, like noise, pollution, and that kind of stuff needing permitted for various things there. I'm hoping that the splash pad is up and going by August. I'm hopeful that we can program some cool stuff there that will kind of bring the whole community together. I think having the pavement, the parking, and everything there will help Guenther Park become even more like an event-friendly space. Lastly, I just wanted to say keep your ears open. Whether it holds true to the city of Sheffield Lake or whatnot, but one of the big points in the keynote speaker, they were talking about this movement to abolish property taxes. It was a heads-up as far as the groundwork that's being laid for this to happen and just kind of to start thinking about what effect that could have on parks and recreation in various cities. I urge the board just to kind of keep your ears open with what's going on, especially this year. It could be a big year for the future of the parks and recreation. Chairman Wright asks are you in charge of taking registrations for the community gardens? Rec Director Pederson replies no, Cathy's doing that. Chairman Wright asks have you talked at all to the soccer board? Rec Director Pederson replies I have not. Chairman Wright says I need to connect you with them. I know that this is a World Cup year, and they were talking about doing some events at the park, and I'd like to see how the city could collaborate with their group.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Wright says I know Guenther Park is in this state of development. Everything's still really cold and disgusting, so there's not a whole lot of construction going on right now. I'm excited to see all of the development going on at Gunther Park this year. Representative Kovach says Memorial; there's plans accepting a donation from the VFW in regard to a pavilion over there. Unidentified member asks do we know if the Ford plant is planning on keeping the chain link at Guenther, even though they made the new fence up at Memorial? Chairman Wright responds I think so and the soccer board wanted it to stay, because as they continue to grow and get a little more sophisticated, they talked about approaching sponsors and then having banners made for the sponsors and hanging them along that chain link fence, especially because that's going to be where the parking lot is, so they'll be highly visible to everybody parking there. That'll be a good break for balls headed that way, too. Member Keely asks on Freedom Park, I know we had a lot of construction going on over in that area. Do we have an idea of when that's going to wrap up and how that's going to affect that park? Representative Kovach responds I do not know that there is an end time frame on that, and I know it's been slowed down by the weather. That's the only thing that's going on. I know they want to complete that road project as quickly as possible, get that road back up and running. I guess you could give Pat a call and see what the time frame might be on that. He promises that he's putting that area back together next to the dog park, and I believe that it should be leveled and reseeded. I do know that there is a group that is formed that plans to put on a festival honoring our Dunkle in August, which they intend to

hold it at the boat launch. They'll actually be working as a committee off of the Community Civic Council. Rec Director Pederson states we're having a Dunkle Day. It's going to be August 8th at the boat launch. We're planning on having some food trucks, like a passport for people to attend various stations. There will be a Dunkle dig, so we're planning on getting a sandbox built for kids to look for these 3D-printed Dunkles. I think they're planning on working with the school and the library for an art program. Besides community days, I think this came from some people thinking, hey, let's have a special thing. Nobody recognizes the Dunkle all that much. You've got the Basket Festival, the Cherry Festival, now we've got the Dunkle. Representative Kovach says they're going to have a lot of activities for young, to get the youth of the city informed on that. That was an issue Len Smith and I worked on many years ago and procured the historic marker for it that's over at Shell Cove. The group has gathered and decided that we should make an annual event and use it to help promote Sheffield Lake at the parks. Chairman Wright asks do you think that Boy Scout project with the picture frame will be done by then? It would be a nice little touch. Do you know anything about that? Rec Director Pederson replies no. All I know is that I guess the person they were using for modification to build that metal frame kind of screwed them over. So, he got an extension. I don't know what that looks like, though. I know the plan was still to put that down there at the boat launch.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee,
*Motion by Barker/Second by Keely to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 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
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 February 16, 2026.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL
Rick Rosso