

**Minutes of the Park Board
City of Sheffield Lake, Ohio
April 20, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Park Board was held Monday, April 20, 2026. Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS:

Present: Wright, Keely, Barker, Morgan, Mayor Radeff (late), Council Representative Kovach, Service Director Hastings, Rec Director Pederson.

Excused: None.

Attending: Councilman Fogel, Tandi Fritz, citizens.

MINUTES: *Motion by Keely/Second by Morgan to accept the minutes of the March 16, 2026 meeting with any noted corrections. Yeas All.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

PRESENTATIONS: None.

MAYOR REPORT: Mayor Radeff reports we're moving forward on the splash pad that was passed by council to move the money over, so that we could get that moving. Hopefully we have that ready to go by the end of the summer. Then I know that Scott can kind of go over some of the stuff he's been doing. We've been working with Ford for a while now and they have committed \$250,000 towards the rec center. So, I know that the money right now we're waiting for gets sent over to CCC. Then once he has that check, then I know Ford wants to come and do a presentation at city council, but they have committed \$250,000 towards the rec center, which brings their total of about \$1.3 million on a projected \$3.2 million cost. We do have additional funding out there that we're trying to obtain as well. So, we're hoping that by the time we're ready to build that it is mostly paid for through grants. We do have additional funding out there that we're trying to obtain as well. So, we're hoping that by the time we're ready to build that, it is mostly paid for through grants.

SERVICE DIRECTOR REPORT: Service Director Hastings reports at our boat launch, I have the sand bypassing scheduled to mobilize this week. We are still targeting to have it open and ready for boaters by the end of April. This did require an in-water waiver to our permit, which I have out to the ODNR and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We are still working on the submerged land lease associated with the boat launch, as well as the submerged land lease associated with Shell Cove Park. Even though we did that work some years ago, these things do take a lot of time with the Army Corps of Engineers. I did want to report our Pride Day is May 16th, a Saturday. I do have a big presence with our local scouts this year, and we're going to use them to do our traditional things, such as mulching in all the parks and flowers. VFW is also

going to assist us at the event. Speaking of the VFW, they did donate upwards of \$9,000 for a new pavilion shelter at Memorial Park. I intended to build that in-house, although I did have an unexpected retirement of our chief carpenter, so I'm going to weigh in on whether we can achieve that task. Ironically, I believe they also have something on the 9th of May for VFW at Memorial Park. I'll have to verify that. Our local department is out and running on cutting grass. I have been contacted by the local soccer organization with some cutting schedules already, so they must be either soon to start or started. Chairman Wright says the first practice was just this Friday and first game is May 3rd. Service Director Hastings states I did reach out to Columbia Gas today, who was all but mobilized and capitalized on that whole parking lot, which I agreed to. They were supposed to be gone by April, but we actually had a real winter that stopped their construction significantly. I just talked to them today, told them I'd get firm dates, which I'm thankful you just shared, and we will work on getting the majority of them out of there. I did want to let the board know that I intend to present to city council the construction phase of the recreation center. Phase one is site development. I mentioned that at a council meeting last time. Regardless of our schedule to actually build the center, which also requires council's approval, this phase is underground infrastructure work that would benefit the parcel regardless. In my career, I've had different comments on what the city could do there. I certainly stand behind the proposal for a rec center. I did want to report, though, that as part of that, the grant writer informed me that the grant she wrote for the playground outside of that was denied, unfortunately, but we can try again. It would have been basketball courts, fencing, sand volleyball, things like that. As the mayor mentioned, our splash pad has been ordered. We are shooting for July construction, and I'll keep the board apprised of that. Then I have a meeting Wednesday with Rachel, our grant writer, to firm up our resubmission of the nature works grant, which will be for the reconstruction of the concession stand at Guenther Park. Mayor Radeff says we'll post a little 5 question survey for that grant. They want to see the city input from citizens saying that they want bathrooms there, so it's just so they can add that to the grant, because they said we were actually one of the top grants, but these are the suggestions they gave going forward. It would be great to fill it out, just say, hey, do you want bathrooms here, and what parts do you want bathrooms at, just so we can show that we had citizen input. Rec Director Pederson asks Ferndale fencing, how's that? Service Director Hastings replies Ferndale fencing should be almost complete. I'll look into that. Representative Kovach asks would you need a vote from the Park Board to move forward on the action you want to take on the grounds for the rec center? Service Director Hastings responds it would certainly be beneficial, to show our support collectively. *Motion by Keely/Second by Morgan to begin site development at the proposed site for the Recreation Center. Yeas All. *Motion by Keely/Second by Morgan to accept the additional \$250,000 from Ford towards the construction of the Rec Center. Yeas All. Chairman Wright says we can get legislation going, get it in front of council so that they can make a decision on this \$1.3 million that have been collected already. Representative Kovach states just for the record, that this is the only use of the money that we have received. It cannot be used

for any additional infrastructure projects or anything like that. This money has been donated and a grant received in regards to this project.

PARK/RECREATION DIRECTOR REPORTS: Rec Director Pederson reports we today started a mind challenge for the senior group Monday morning coffee, and it was pretty cool. There were 7 teams, and 1 of our 2 teams that was there finished second today. So, they'll be competing 3 more weeks. If they could win it all again like one of the groups did 2 years ago, that'd be kind of cool for the senior group. They all had a lot of fun though. It was a very unique event. There were a couple vendor tables set up so that they could speak and provide services for the seniors, and the tribute was fun for the group as well. Also wrapped up recently since we last met was the Zumba classes that we put on. We had about 12 people come to that first class, and then throughout it kind of came down a little bit. I think people trended out seeing what Zumba is like, but we are in talks of doing that again towards the end of May. That was open to anybody and we did get a good age range. I put out a survey also to kind of get feedback on how was the instructor and their opinion. Had they attended Zumba classes before or not? Did this seem too easy, too hard? How was the time? After the first week, some people said, can we push it back? I wasn't going to change it during the 4 weeks. So, we're looking into ways that we can change it and start it back up in mid-May and go into the summer with some Zumba. Also trying to finalize some yoga outside of the group that meets because they meet at 3:30 twice a week and that time doesn't work for everybody. I'm trying to figure out what's going to work for the community center schedule but also the yoga instructor. She's also the one that's interested in coming into the Monday group maybe at the end, once a month around 10:30-11 and putting on some chair yoga for that group. Starting on Wednesdays in May, 8:30 in the morning, we're going to be starting a walking club. So, we've got different starting locations, whether it be here at a park or community center, boat launch, and mapped out 4 different paths that we can take, each one between 2-3 miles. It'll be a leisurely walk depending on the group there, maybe we pick up the pace. So, we'll kind of see what interest we get and who shows up for that. Just a way to get out into the neighborhood and be active. The VFW donated \$500 to sponsor the idea of a three-on-three basketball tournament for the youth. I have that slated for July 25th and August 1st, depending on how many participants we get, how many teams, we might need that second weekend or we might just need the one weekend to knock it all out and have August 1st as a rain date. First movie night's going to be June 6th. We're doing Zootopia 2 for that one. Also starting that first week in June is the, you've probably seen the flyer go out for the annual youth craft/art camp. They'll be doing six weeks again at the community center Mondays from like 1-2:30 in the afternoon. So, we're going to work together on providing them with what they need and supporting that program, because it's pretty beneficial for the youth that want that engagement.

OLD BUSINESS: Chairman Wright says we talked about the monies received to construct a pavilion at Memorial Park. Moving into Ferndale Park, so just Friday,

Councilman Fogel and I met with representatives from MidStates Recreation to discuss an inclusive playground project. We discussed the location, some of the resources that we have as a community, not only from a service dept. standpoint, but also lots and lots of dirt that we can use to incorporate into this design. It was a good meeting. I believe that they are going to be getting us this week or early next, at least, a two-dimensional design and a rough estimate on the project. What we asked them to do was design a playground that has a lot of different inclusive aspects, unitary surfacing being one, ramps coming from elevation so that people who use chairs can not only move freely around the equipment at a ground level, but can also get onto the equipment. Then a range of different apparatus, whether it's climbers, slides, things like this, that there's varied recreational experiences and play experiences for basically all ages and all ability levels. So, once they get to us a design, then we can put this in front of the board and start to talk about the characteristics of the design, what is being offered by the design, what might be lacking, the way we might want to see things change. My anticipation is we might spend a good portion of the summer just going back and forth about design ideas until we finally present something back to MidStates Recreation for a sort of a final design. Then we can begin going after monies. I know that there are parties up here who are very, very interested in this project. New member Morgan, I know, is very interested in this project. Member Morgan states as somebody that lives with a disability every single day, I find it very, very important to be inclusive as a community and we can start with the parks. The ramp ideas I really like. Another thing that is very important is to be able to take the able-bodied kids along with the disabled kids and let them play together. That's what starts acceptance. Brief description of different grants and Midstates providing a grant guide. Member Morgan says Brunswick has an all-inclusive park and they use the students to help fundraise for it. Chairman Wright says I called MidStates Recreation because I believe that they are probably the best local distributorship of playground equipment and designers when it comes to inclusive play design. I

speaking from experience. I used to be employed by them when they were called PlayWorld MidStates and sold park equipment for them for a decade. The owner of the company had a child with severe disabilities, and so this is kind of his life's work, was inclusive play design, so much so that he singlehandedly caused PlayWorld, who is an international manufacturer distributor of playground equipment, to make it one of their primary design sort of ideas or pillars of thought when they're looking at playground equipment. So, I think they do it really, really well, and I look forward to seeing what they come up with. Mayor Radeff says I think this is something that we wanted to make sure when we did the master plan that we put in an inclusive, making sure that the city is inclusive, there's a whole section on that I had. I worked on that with Ashley Kingsborough, who she and I had worked together to start when I was president of the baseball board, the Adaptive League, and I know that went from 2 teams to about 6. they're getting people from all over the county, and I know that a lot of these families, they really like the program that goes on there, and they prefer it over other cities. So, I think there is not only a need, but also a large group that is willing to support, and I know she gets people who volunteer from all over the city to come in

and volunteer for that. It's all volunteer-based, and I think she grew up in Sheffield Lake. Her family has a business in Sheffield Lake, so I think she would also be willing to help us with that aspect, but I think this is a good project, and I think maybe a good idea would be when we get to fundraising, I know obviously the city can't legally fundraise, but I know the possibility to do a fundraiser through CCC when the time comes, but that would be up to member cohorts. Representative Kovach says we're talking 2-3 years minimum. It's going to take a lot of planning. Chairman Wright states I would like to see Jayme who did the redesign for Guenther Park. Jayme Schwartzberg of DERU Architecture, she became one of my very favorite architects to work with when I was doing that stuff, because inclusion is something that she keeps first and foremost in her mind. Remember Morgan mentioned able-bodied kids, typically developing kids playing with atypically developing kids, and that is extremely important, but it's also extremely important that if grandma or grandpa happens to use a chair or some sort of ambulatory device, and they're out with the grandkids, that they can get around and respond to their grandkids at any part of the, not just the playground, but the park. Not only that, maybe they're able-bodied as well, but they might need to have something to do there as well. So, she's very, very good at considering all of those aspects and to bring her in here to do a redesign of the entirety of Ferndale Park, especially with some of the considerations that we have going on, you know, the water tower coming down, the cell tower going up in the future, and to be able to design that stuff in. I think another thing that would be an important aspect that she could do is, when we're talking about using fill dirt and moving that around the park in order to create a feature of the park that is multi-use, not only as a barrier between the ball field and the playground area, but as a place for people to relax, to watch. I can easily see parents sitting on that hill and watching one child practicing baseball/softball and then having the other kid behind them on the playground. In order to get your walks up to elevation, you need to have that sort of grade out there, and she would be able to not only design it, but tell us exactly how much yard and dirt we would need to create it and how much concrete we would need to build anchor points for the ramp system to connect to and connect to those paths. Decision made for Chairman Wright to get a quote. Representative Kovach says this is where we will get a start on the park, and over the years, it can be expanded and developed into a much larger project because in each and every one of our parks, they are never going to be done, ever. It will be rebuilding, remodeling. Been at it for 30 years, and we've come a long way, but we've got a long way to go. Chairman Wright states the thing about having a professional designer, as we saw with Gunther Park, I mean, we've discussed, there's the playground aspect, and it is a huge thing, and really, the impetus for this conversation, obviously, but we talked about the (inaudible) Memorial Bridge coming into the park, restrooms at the park. We might need additional parking there, all that sort of stuff, and she could obviously design that whole space and every aspect of it, every phase of it that we would like to see happen in the future. So, it's not just talking about the playground. We as a board and as an administration need

to consider the entirety of the park and even the trail system that connects to it and how it all flows together and that every aspect of it is inclusive. Chairman Wright asks Guenther Park, have bid packages been drawn up? Service Director Hastings responds no, I tried to do that internally but our equipment is not good enough. I'm working on option b now. Chairman Wright says that list of grants that Member Morgan just described earlier, they can be used toward the inclusive playground, some of those. Specifically, Kaboom. I think Kaboom is a fantastic candidate for the West Shore Park playground replacement. They like to do smaller-scale community-built projects. Member Morgan says I can attest to Kaboom's wonderfulness. I used to live in Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority, and they built us a playground over there for the kids as well, and they did a wonderful job with it. They try to get the community involved as well. Representative Kovach reports the only thing I've noticed in the past where we've applied for Kaboom is they seem to be centered more on larger inner-city projects, but that aside, I think it would probably be a really good idea to apply for it in regards to this all-inclusive, because then you're, in my opinion, leaning towards the same direction. I do have a couple comments about our rec center. I'm glad Ms. Tandi is here because she's a teacher. Now, one of the biggest, well, arguments, I guess, is the best way to put it out there on our local internet is that, well, we don't do anything for the older people, which I think I've already gone through with Mr. Pederson on two of the items. They say this is just gonna be for the kids. Now, you (Tandi) being a teacher, what time of day are the children in school? Ms. Fritz replies around 8am until about 3pm every day. Representative Kovach asks and what months? Ms. Fritz replies late August to June/end of May. Representative Kovach says what that really leaves in the event of the use of this center is that we have about a seven-hour period during the day that could be used for the older adults for, well, I don't know, racquetball, pickleball, tennis projects, etc. As our rec director, along with Zumba, what other things can you pick up that we could, you know, possibly use for these older adults? Rec Director Pederson replies I've sent over a few ideas to the mayor; fitness classes, pickleball, etc. Representative Kovach asks we're going to have a walking track designed around the perimeter, correct? Mayor Radeff replies it'll be paved around the perimeter, a delineated marked area. Representative Kovach says so that would save them the trip that a lot of seniors, I understand, go up to Midway Mall and walk around during the day. Mayor Radeff responds absolutely and that's kind of the point too. That's why the format of the building is how we did it, so that it could be a multi-functional building. We could do other events. They could do their mind challenge there. It's going to be able to set up for events and other things. It's not just recreation. Ms. Fritz says where I grew up, we had a rec center, and even some things like gymnastics, it leads back to the younger kids, but self-defense classes, any kind of space that we have available and open, like you said, it could be used for any age of adult or child. Chairman Wright says it was also mentioned earlier about Miss Ashley and the adaptive baseball program, which is right now being played on dirt, which is not inclusive. It's not a unitary adaptive surfacing, so to be able to move that indoors, where on a turf where

they have a true unitary accessible surfacing would be amazing. Imagine how the program would grow then. Mayor Radeff says that's kind of the conversation we had. Instead of doing it in 100 degree August, they'll have an air-conditioned area. Sky is the limit really. That's kind of the concept we went with is this huge open space and we weren't limited by walls. We were just limited by imagination. We're going to be able to really open it up, and it's not just rec, it's also programming. The point of this is a place for everybody to be able to come in and do things as a community and really use it. A lot of communities aren't capable of getting one or aren't able to for whatever reason. I think the fact that we know that we're able to do something like this, especially something that's been on the city's mind for every bit of 30-plus years, and not only just be able to get it done but also something I know is going to add to the community, especially at the size of ours to where it is. You're going to have the community center across the street, which is going to continue and expand programming as well because there will be more space and opportunity for that. Additionally, with the rec center across the street, we even talked as we started at the size we did because we want to make sure that when we put something together and we build it, we do it right, and that we can make sure it's functioning correctly with the idea that we know we have some more space over there. We can always expand in the long term. We think that's going to be the big issue we have is eventually having to expand. Representative Kovach says Well, the size of the building is a good size for a start, and the type of building is easily expandable just as the civic center was. Another feature will be that should there be any cost to any of the programs, for any of the older, more than likely we would be a silver sneakers eligible building. Mayor Radeff replies I know people ask about the building construction, but that's really the nature of how they're going. I know that when we went and talked to Euclid, they're building a huge metal building just three times our size and for \$30 million. Ms. Fritz says we need somewhere that we can use for different activities all year round and not just take advantage of something in the summer. Mayor Radeff states those months that kids are out, that's why we're putting a fenced-in basketball court and we want to put lights there so you can use that instead of having to use inside and having a specific pickleball court and having sand volleyball, because we want to also make sure that we have additional space for other activities when we can go outside. So, I think that's what people also forget is that there's going to be plenty to do there. Rec Director Pederson says will say that when I went to the Parks and Rec Conference in February, I attended a session about rec centers or community centers that are kind of the rec center idea. You've got these cities in Ohio that spend \$80 million to \$100 million on a facility for 30,000 residents. Sure, we don't have all the bells and whistles that they'll have at theirs. They're incorporating it with the Ohio State University medical facilities and they're building these mega campuses. But for a city of 9,000, to be able to provide extracurricular activities for youth, adults, and seniors at a very small fraction. Representative Kovach says I would suggest take a look at the City of Sandusky. As I understand it, they're going to be breaking ground on a 36,000 sq. ft. facility rec center this summer. Service Director Hastings replies this building actually has a block wall over 8 feet tall. It's just metal going there up after because of the heights needed for

basketball, soccer, etc. The illusion that it's metal top to bottom is wrong. It's all block. Mayor Radeff says we want to match the community center. We want them to look like we planned them to look similar.

CITIZENS COMMENTARY: *George Duozos, 3634 Mills Rd.* says I am partnered with Mike Denna who currently owns Harbor Woods and we are in the process of going through city council for approvals. Mike and I have been working on this project for about 2 years now. We had an overall scheme we were looking at and we came to the city about 2 years ago. Things have come up. We've changed the design. We've made it smaller. We've re-enlarged it. The housing market has changed over the last couple of years. We're finally at a point where we have an area that we feel comfortable with and a design that we like. In doing so, one of our struggles was the southern part of the property, which is at Parkview, the southern end of Parkview, is what to do with the southern end that is deemed wetlands. We talked about maybe taking half of it by wetland credits, doing something with it. But at the end of the day, Mike and I think we came up with a good idea of what to do with that property. Before I continue, I'm going to hand you out a handout here so everybody can follow along. So, when Mike and I did Treadway Ponds, we did an area of walking paths that we donated to the city to connect it to the current walking path that's there now. Actually, I think the city was working on that when we started the project. So, what we did is we added a walking path that's connected to the parking path to Lafayette. We met with the mayor and Pat Hastings. We thought this would be a good, kind of a thank you for the city letting us go through and helping us with our projects. With that same idea, you'll see the southern part of that kind of black box with a narrow point to it. Mike and I have come up with the thought of a couple things. We were thinking about donating that land to the city, okay? That area is approximately 5.4 acres of area that we own, and there's an additional 1.2 to 1.3 acres of right away that the city owns for a combination of 6.7 acres. Our thought was utilizing this area for the city of Sheffield Lake. It's a great place for walking, walking path, wandering through the woods, trying to preserve some of the woods. I know taking down trees is always an issue with a lot of residents, so we felt this was a good balance. The other thing we were proposing, too, is maybe creating a pavilion area that the residents could use. Mike and I would obviously donate that, maybe a 20 by 30 pavilion out of the wetland areas that could be used for gathering, meeting, teaching. The school is right there. I think it would be a good place for the kids to go out, teachers take the kids through the wetlands, study biology, trees, that kind of thing. Also, maybe doing, and I don't want to overstep my bounds here, Pat, but where Lafayette is now, maybe creating it as a gravel parking area, so if people do want to travel to the wetland areas and walk around, they'd have a place to park. We feel it could be utilized by the city. There are a lot of stipulations when it comes to wetlands. We've done a lot of our search and research on it already. It can be used I'd say 9 months out of the year, that place would be walkable, right? You could create walking paths around the perimeter. Again, we feel it'd be something that the city could use, rather than us just having it sitting there doing nothing. We feel the pavilion might be a

good place, again, for gathering, if people want to have a small little gathering there with food, or take the kids there, or just need a place to gather and talk. We thought that'd be a nice little area for a pavilion. Very simple, low maintenance for the city, right? It's land. Shouldn't have a lot of work to keep and maintain, other than maybe checking on what's going on there every now and then. So, should everything go through, we are proposing donating all this to the city, if it's something the city's interested in entertaining. Mayor Radeff says I've talked to Pat about it, and I mean, that would be, I think, exactly what he had said; last year the biggest issue was, we'll tear down the trees, I like the trees, and this would give an opportunity for people to be able to walk through and still have trees, and legally walk through it, because they'll be owned by the city and not private people. I think one thing that we talked about is that, obviously, our paths we've been expanding, and we need to get paths to expand to the east and west, and this would be an opportunity for us to expand our trails through that east side. Additionally, we've even talked about we could even get the metro parks involved in it as well, to really kind of develop that into something that can be usable and still preserve the trees and the wetlands as it is. You still then create that huge barrier between Knollwood and the new development. Chairman Wright says that would have been my only question, does the city have an appetite for taking this on? Service Director Hastings replies it's a wonderful gesture to have conservation in the area, for sure. A lot of wetlands for the traveling I do through the state parks is met with raised boardwalks throughout these parks. Maumee Bay has an observation deck called the Nest, and it literally is man-made, but it looks like a massive nest with observation. Representative Kovach says there really is no maintenance to wetlands. What I mean is you're not cutting grass, etc. Service Director Hastings responds right. Yeah, no maintenance in that regard.

The wood deck they built in 1992, and they're just now replacing it in 2026, so it's lasted a long time. Mr. Duozos says the other point, too, we've consulted with our wetland's expert, too, is there's a lot of rules when it comes to wetlands, what you can do. What you can do in wetlands is create natural walking paths, right? You can't go in there and put in a paved area or, you know, lay down wood chips or anything like that. A lot of this space is already naturally open, especially by the roadways that are there, and we have planted grass in there, so there are natural areas to wander through, and it will create its own walking paths. We did a lot of work on drainage there about a year or so, so it does stay pretty maintained when it comes to water. It's not underwater constantly or anything like that. It can definitely be used. It's very low maintenance, and I think it's something that the city can use to benefit from it. Member Morgan asks is this going to be accessible for somebody in a wheelchair, mobility scooter? Mr. Duozos responds as of right now, no. Just for the simple fact, like I said, we can't go into the wetlands. There are areas around the perimeter of it. If you look at the east and the south end, even where the pavilion we proposed to put in, those areas you can do anything you want. Those are not deemed wetlands. So, in theory, there are areas you could pave. Member Morgan says you brought up stone parking and that would be an issue. Mr. Duozos replies it would be. But again, those are steps further down the road that I can't answer for you right now. I just figured this is a good starting point to see if

the city was even interested in doing it. Representative Kovach says you would have to have the law director drop legislation to accept that donation. Mayor Radeff replies yeah and then eventually bring it back to park board to create it. Chairman Wright asks does anybody have an objection to more potential park land in the city? I wonder, is there, I mean, this is within walking distance from Knollwood, right? I wonder if there's any ability to partner with the schools and create an outdoor classroom. In wetlands, are you allowed to plant anything? Mr. Duozos replies I don't want to speak specifically to that. There are certain guidelines. Representative Kovach says I think what you could do is, like, you could observe the plants, and you could observe the animal life, the bugs, the bats. Mr. Duozos says again, there's area there that are not being wetlands that you can plant. You can do anything you want. Mayor Radeff says in the long term, this could vary working with our active transportation plan, especially as an opportunity to allow an additional way for you to walk to that school without having to use main roads and not have to worry about traffic. I think there's a lot of opportunity there, and I think Pat and I; we've kind of already decided that there's a lot of things we could think about using the land correctly for. Councilman Fogel asks who would pay for the raised boardwalks? Mr. Duozos replies I haven't proposed any raised boardwalks. The first mention of raised boardwalks came from Mr. Hastings. He's seen it in some other areas. We've proposed he put up a pavilion and some parking area and donate the land as far as boardwalks. Raised boardwalks, I've never been involved in that, and I've got to believe that has to go through the Metro Parks or the EPA in order to get permission to do that. Boardwalks, for the most part, are usually used when you have a lot of water. This area here does not have a lot of standing water. You can walk most anywhere you go. If you are asking me today, Mr. Fogel if I am paying for boardwalks, I can't answer that for you. For one, I don't know if you can, and two, I don't see the reasoning behind it because we're not walking through water. Councilman Fogel replies I'm just asking if it's going to be a liability on the city or if you're going to pay for it? It's a novel gesture. Representative Kovach says technically, I think that would come out of a future park budget. Chairman Wright says that's why my only question was, is this something that the city has an appetite for? Because he's clearly just donating the parcels that make this up and then the rest would be on us. Councilman Fogel asks what do you think the value of those parcels is? Is there any value at all? Mayor Radeff says he doesn't have to give us anything Aden, so I don't understand why you're arguing with him about this. Brief back and forth between multiple people. Mr. Duozos says is there a value to the city as far as a dollar? I don't know. Probably not. There may be. Is there a value for saving trees in that area, especially with the community around there? Definitely. Chairman Wright states So, I mean, the way I see it, it's wetlands. The trees are going to be saved no matter what. My question was just simply, I mean, you're donating this land. The way I heard it implied was that this is a donation to the city, so now it's city property for the city to do whatever they want with, as opposed to it being private property where if anybody were trying to do anything, it would be trespassing. So, that was my only question. Is this something that the city had an appetite for, was to take this on and create a new park space and whatever we wanted to do with it. The administration

seems to be on board with it. I happen to love parks, so I'm in favor of it as well, even if we do nothing with it for a long time. You know we talked about partnering with schools. We talked about partnering with the county metro parks. I think there's a lot of ability to find other sources to help us fund these projects in the future. Mr. Duozos says we need to get our project going. If that doesn't happen, we're probably going to do something different with the land. Councilman Fogel asks are you still going to develop a park within your development? Mr. Duozos responds that's not why we're here today. I'm here about donating the land. If it's something the city is interested in doing, we'd love to do it. You know, if not, to us that's fine. Mr. Duozos states we're just trying to do a gesture for letting us do work in the city. I think it will benefit the city at the end of the day, and I think it will make a lot of the residents around the area happy as well. Chairman Wright says I think if the city administration was willing to take that on, I'd definitely support it.

Aden Fogel, 4351 Brockley Ave. says we did have a meeting. A great meeting, wonderful people. Very impressed, with you also. I think that would be a great thing to see that move forward. I know that things have been done a certain way in the past. That doesn't mean that they're always the most efficient way to do things. I'd like to see things go a little bit quicker maybe so that we can enjoy, new parks, whatever we're going to do. We talked about the Memorial Bridge. I talked with Pat about that for several years now. Do you think that we could tie the Memorial Bridge together with the Ferndale Park project? Chairman Wright replies yeah, that's why I would like to get Jayme Schwartzberg of DERU Architecture here to design everything in, the bridge, the playground, the restrooms, all the earthworks, the skate park that we've talked about expanding for some time, that would be part of the design. Councilman Fogel says I do have a lot in Ferndale Park that I'd be willing to donate. There are some other lots on the, I think it's Rowelyn, the paper street, on the west side, West Dr. I don't think there's going to ever be any development there, so we could probably obtain other lots fairly cheap. So, I love that idea. The one developer forwarded some information on restrooms that are pre-fab, probably \$70,000. I'd love to see a restroom in every park in the next year or so. I don't know if that's a realistic goal or not, but that's something I would support on council for sure. Maybe we have the service dept. do the groundwork and support Pat, and then they come and set the pre-fab restroom down on top of it. So, I do have a grant opportunity from Norfolk and Southern. My friend is the community ambassador for Norfolk and Southern for this area, so I wanted to see if we might be able to try and take advantage of that, maybe apply for that towards the Memorial Bridge. It's up to a \$50,000 grant. There's another grant that I know the chief of police has had the grant writer write for safety equipment and a generator possibly at the civic center. That's a separate grant. I don't know how that works. How do we start the process for a grant? Do I go to the park board?

Representative Kovach replies the civic center would go through the civic center board. Mayor Radeff responds you can send me an email and I can have Racheal look into the grant. Councilman Fogel says I did talk to her about the grant with the police. She knows the basic form. You have to be within so many miles of Norfolk and Southern, or within a half a mile. So, I think we have a good chance of getting the

grant. I'll use my friend's name. If we do get the grant, Norfolk and Southern will send her out for a photo op. She's going to come on Friday and clean up, and they're going to give her a check or a money order for \$50 to give to somebody during the cleanup. Now, as far as the grant money for the rec center, what happens? We still have to rezone that property as a park, right? Service Director Hastings replies correct. Councilman Fogel asks okay, so what happens if it doesn't get rezoned? Representative Kovach replies we will give the money back, and we will become pariahs in any grant process going forward. It will take us years to get grants that we have in months. Councilman Fogel asks so, do you think that may have been irresponsible? Representative Kovach replies no, I don't think it was irresponsible. Chairman Wright states That's just the way it goes. I mean, grants are available when they're available. You've got to go for the money. Representative Kovach says we approved this project. This has been on the books for over a year. Councilman Fogel asks this project's been approved? Representative Kovach replies it's been in the works for over a year. Nothing gets approved overnight. Councilman Fogel asks are we going to send the field house issue to a vote in November? Mayor Radeff replies we don't need to. Councilman Fogel asks why not? Mayor Radeff responds because the decision to bond out is a council decision. It's not a people decision. If you want to send it; you send something to the ballot, and you pay to put something on the ballot, if you're asking people to pay for something, but we're not asking people to pay for it, the bond is strictly... Councilman Fogel interrupts saying well, we are asking people to pay for this. This is going to have to be subsidized with tax dollars. Mayor Radeff replies right. So, we're saying we have it within the budget that we have. So, if you want to approve a bond, that's up to; just like you're approving a bond for the fire truck. We're not going to go to the ballot for a fire truck. That's how this works. Council gets elected to make decisions on bonds, and if we financially... Councilman Fogel says well, we need a fire truck, we don't need a fieldhouse. Representative Kovach replies no, you don't need a fieldhouse. Councilman Fogel asks how many people have you talked to Steve? Representative Kovach replies oh, I've talked to hundreds of people. Not the 6 that you have on Facebook. We govern in this building here, not on Facebook. You can go out and stir up... Councilman Fogel asks how many emails do you have Steve? From residents? Because anybody that talks to me, I have an email, so I have proof. Representative Kovach replies I tell you what, bring all your emails and bring all your people into the council meeting. Councilman Fogel says they're not my people. They're our people, Steve. Representative Kovach says bring in the residents that you have spoken to. Service Director Hastings tries to show some interiors on the screen and says I just wanted to share with you some of the mezzanine and the fact that this does have an upstairs where the workout is designed and, you know, you look down at the participants. It does have basketball. Mayor Radeff states I'll say exactly what Member Wright said about having the dirt so you could check each. That was our whole point of the mezzanine is so you could work out. You could watch your kid on one side or your kid on the other side. You know, that was the thought process as well so that you're able to, you know, do two things at once.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

MEETING ADJOURNED: With no further business before this committee, *Motion by Keely/Second by Morgan to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 8:09 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 April 20, 2026.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Rick Rosso