

Board of Marina, Parks & Forestry  
Parks & Forestry Report  
November 7, 2023

Park Division

- End Park new playground was installed over the summer.
- The five-year Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan was approved by City Council on 9/18/23.
- Cleveland Park splash pad bid was approved for construction in 2024.
- Kiwanis Park six pickleball court bid was approved for construction in 2024.
- DPW in conjunction with LUFC is looking for approval to construct a 700-vehicle parking lot at the Butzen Sports Complex in 2024.
- The park department is working with Optimist Club for construction of a basketball court in Optimist Park. The city has \$25,000 set aside for the court. Designs are being worked on and the Optimist Club will be fundraising to help pay for the court install.
- Landscaping along phase II of the Sheboygan Peace Park looks very nice. Special thanks to Mary and Frank Koczan for all their hard work. There are many others that help improve and keep the park looking great.
- Sheboygan County Bicycling group had their first meeting with IMBA in Evergreen Park to start their trail network feasibility and assessment.
- The Department of Public Works installed a 300' Mobi-Mat walkway system designed to be used by people in walkers, wheelchairs, strollers and anyone else who struggles to move on the sand. The mat systems will help people of all abilities get closer to the water for a more enjoyable beach experience. The mat will be installed in the spring and removed in the fall.
- The Deland fish cleaning station needed some unexpected repairs over the summer. The cutting unit needed to be replaced. The station was closed from June 20 through August 1. The replacement cost was \$19,998. This unit was replaced seven years ago.
- There were five memorial benches purchased this year. Benches are purchased as a donation for \$1,500. In most cases the benches replace an older style bench in the parks or along the lakefront. The one shown is part of Tristan Laanait's Boy Scout

project. Tristan worked with Habitat for Humanity on the project. The bench is located along the Shoreland 400 Trail just south of Huron Ave.

- A new electronic message sign was installed along the lakefront in Deland Park. The electronic messaging on the older sign was no longer working. The main purpose of the sign is to welcome visitors to the lakefront and warn them of any beach hazards like dangerous high waves and possible rip currents.
- There are many volunteer groups and individuals that contribute to the beauty of Sheboygan's parks and green spaces. Connie Tross and Stephanie Larson, both belonging to the Sheboygan County Master Gardeners, care for park areas on their own time. Connie takes care of the plantings along Niagara Ave. and Broughton Drive and Stephanie takes care of the Sensory garden along Rotary Park on Pennsylvania Ave. The Early Bird Rotary Club maintain the "Rotary traffic circle" on Indiana Ave and 8<sup>th</sup> street. Reed Snyder put in the extra time removing 20 dead potentillas and replanted late this fall.