

Sarah Leach

To: Teresa Quinlin-Murphy; Laura Nelson
Cc: William Tigert
Subject: RE: Budget Deliberations

From: Laura Nelson [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 3:31 PM
To: Teresa Quinlin-Murphy <tquinlin@pelham.ca>
Subject: Budget Deliberations

Hello again Teresa,

We have never however you have been on an email chain with Ryan & Vickie regarding the skatepark improvements I'm trying to make happen.

I was speaking with John Wink who told me there will be a meeting held where the town decides on giving some money to worthy causes. I can't come by tomorrow to see you as I'm working late but thought I'd send a personal email to make my pitch for hopefully being able to be blessed with some of that money for the skatepark improvements.

Just to give you some history, my son passed away last Sept 9th last year in a single vehicle accident on hwy 20 coming home from Smithville. He worked at Turkstra Lumber there. He was 23 years old and lived with me. I moved to Fonthill in 2019 after leaving my marriage and he came to live with me, while my now 26 year old daughter, Jamie stayed with her dad due to work and a boyfriend in Mississauga. Shawn fell in love with Niagara when he went to Niagara College. We have been coming down to visit friends in the area for the last 30 years and also fell in love with Niagara.

After Shawn passed, Peter Turkstra, owner of Turkstra Lumber wanted to donate some funds to a charitable cause or to pay for the celebration of life we had for him. We couldn't accept the money for the celebration and we didn't have a cause in mind at the time. He saw the tribute video below and suggested possibly making some improvements to one of Shawn's favourite skate parks, seeing he was a skateboarding enthusiast. That idea stuck with me so I asked some of the boys that frequent the park for suggestions. They came back with some very modest suggestions.

It basically comes down to removing some grass in two areas and putting down more concrete, as well as filling in a grinding hole (not sure that's what it's called) in the cement where kids always trip and fall. That hole now has caution tape around it. They also suggested possibly having lights that can be turned on when it gets dark early in the winter, so kids can still use the park after school.

I'm not sure if watching the two videos below that we are using for the fundraiser will help with the board's decision but it will give you an idea of who my son was and what we are doing to try to raise the funds.

Here are the links to the videos:

VIDEO LINK : <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeXHXGGCTjo>

GO FUND ME LINK: <https://gofund.me/d741cb1b>

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Laura Nelson