



**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON  
parks and recreation**

**AGENDA**

City of Bloomington Board of Park Commissioners  
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, August 24, 2010 4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers  
401 North Morton

**CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL**

**A. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A-1. Approval of Minutes of July 13, 2010
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted July 14, 2010 – August 23, 2010
- A-3. Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments
- A-4. Review of Business Report

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES**

- B-1. Public Comment Period -
- B-2. Bravo Award - Robin Schapker (Chris Truelock)
- B-3. Staff Introductions - Rachel Ehret, Sports Intern
- B-4. Staff Recognition -

**C. OTHER BUSINESS**

- C-1. Review/Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with City of Bloomington Utilities for Consulting Services for Griffy Lake (Mick Renneisen)

**D. REPORTS**

- D-1. Operations Division - No Report
- D-2. Sports Division - TLRC Reports
- D-3. Recreation Division - TLRC Reports
- D-4. Administration Division - No Report

**ADJOURNMENT**



**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON**  
**parks and recreation**

A-1  
**09/28/10**

Board of Park Commissioners  
Regular Meeting  
Minutes

Tuesday, August 24, 2010  
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Council Chambers  
401 N. Morton St.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carter at 4:00 p.m.

**Board Present:** John Carter, Joe Hoffmann Jane St. John

**Board Absent:** Les Coyne

**Staff Present:** Mick Renneisen, Judy Seigle, Mark Sterner, Daren Eads, Kirsten Prange, Becky Barrick-Higgins, Julie Ramey, Kim Ecenbarger, Chris Truelock, Leslie Brinson, Lindsay Buuck, Paula McDevitt, Dave Williams, Rob Gilchrist, John Turnbull

**Intern:** Rachel Ehret

**A. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A-1. Approval of Minutes of July 13, 2010 Meeting
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted July 14 – August 23, 2010
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- A-4. Review of Business Report

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

**B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES**

**B-1. Public Comment Period**

No public comment this month.

**B-2. Bravo Award – Robin Schapker**

Mr. Truelock addressed the Board and stated that the August Bravo Award is being presented to Robin Schapker for her dedication to the Bloomington Girls Softball League. Ms. Schapker has two daughters that both play in the program and she has been a coach for four years. This year she agreed to coach two teams when the program was short on coaches. She enjoys coaching girls at all skill levels and enjoys when a player makes her first hit or catch and the look of accomplishment on her face. In addition to coaching girls' softball, Ms. Schapker also enjoys spending time with her children, running and reading. The staff is grateful for the enthusiastic participation of Ms. Schapker in the girls' softball program.

Ms. Schapker addressed the Board and thanked them for this honor. She said she enjoyed the season and acknowledged her family for their help too. She said she enjoys coaching and loves being at the ballfields with her children and their friends.

**B-3. Staff Introductions – Robin Ehret – Sports Intern**

Ms. Ehret addressed the Board and stated that she is starting her seventh week as a sports intern for the department. She said this has been a great experience being able to shadow her intern supervisor, John Turnbull as well as other individuals within the department. After the completion of her internship in October, she will graduate from Indiana University with a degree in recreational sport management. She plans to pursue a career in the sport management field and hopes to eventually become an event coordinator for a sports division.

B-4. Staff Recognition – none this month

**C. OTHER BUSINESS**

C-1. Review/Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with City of Bloomington Utilities for Consulting Services for Griffy Lake

Mr. Renneisen addressed the Board seeking approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with City of Bloomington Utilities for consulting services for Griffy Lake. He stated that the Utilities Department (CBU) and the Parks and Recreation Department (BPRD) completed a Griffy Lake Master Plan in 2009. The Plan identified the need for some significant improvements to the lake and its infrastructure. An opportunity for Stimulus Grant Funds presented itself to fund some of the significant, and necessary, improvements to Griffy Lake. Potential improvements that can be funded by this grant include: Dam repairs, sluice gate repairs, shoreline stabilization repairs and re-grading of the silt on the east side of the lake. The potential improvements have an estimated cost of approximately \$2.1 million. There is a 5% match requirement if the grant is received. In order to prepare for the grant, staff must complete a plan. The estimated cost of the consulting services is expected not to exceed \$62,500. He introduced staff members from the CBU: Phil Peden, Pat Murphy, and Mike Bengston. He also introduced the new Legal representative for the Parks Department: Inge Van Der Cruysee.

Mr. Williams addressed the Board and stated that Griffy Lake, which is comprised of over 1200 acres, accounts for more than half of the department's acreage holdings. The Department has had a partnership with CBU for many years for both a water source and recreational site. BPRD serves as the land managers and CBU serves as the land stewards for this property. The needs of the Parks Department include shoreline erosion for a total of \$550,000. In addition, staff hopes to deal with the siltation on the east side of the causeway, relocate it and create a channel for boats to get out on the main body of the lake, especially during drought or very dry seasons.

Mr. Murphy addressed the Board and stated that they feel this is a very unique opportunity to work with another City department. He also acknowledged Lisa Abott in the City HAND Department for identifying this opportunity and working together solve some issues that have resulted from the floods of 2008 and long standing issues with the dam. He stated that this MOU will be presented to the Utilities Service Board on Tuesday, August 31.

Mr. Peden addressed the Board and stated that the CBU also has two parts to this project. One part is rehab to the dam and that has already been designed. It includes removal of vegetation, replacement of fence, and work to the concrete fence. The second part is the design for evaluation and repair to the Griffy Lake outlet works, the spillway and the gate that is used to operate the flood levels.

Mr. Williams stated that within 30 days the design will be completed and the final grant will be submitted. Completion of the project can take up to 18 months.

Mr. Renneisen stated that this MOU Provides for the BPRD to pay the entire cost of the consultant totaling \$50,250 and the USB agrees to reimburse the BPRD in the amount of \$25,000 for these services.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with City of Bloomington Utilities. Ms. St. John seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

**D. REPORTS**

D-1. Operations Division – No Report

## D-2. Sports Division – TLRC Reports

Mr. Sterner addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the operations of the TLRC. He stated that staff have been in the facility for 17 months and have spent a great deal of time learning how to run the business. Staff at the center include Mark Sterner, General Manager; Daren Eads, Facility Coordinator; Lindsay Buuck, Health and Wellness Coordinator; Rob Gilchrist, Aquatics/Sports Program Coordinator; and Kirsten Prange, Membership Coordinator. Basketball operations, including court rentals and youth league programming, make up a portion of Mr. Sterner's responsibilities at the TLRC. He works closely with Leslie Brinson running the Bloomington Youth Basketball leagues. During the first year of operation 19 special events were hosted at the TLRC, ranging from the Rollergirls to regional gymnastic events. These events generated more than \$70,000 in revenue for the TLRC and generated an estimated \$6.3 million in economic impact for the local community. Sr. Expo was also hosted at the TLRC for the first time this year. Staff hopes to host other similar expo-type events in the future as this site was very successful and well attended. The same number of special events will be held in 2011-12 with the addition of a national tumbling competition in May. Acquisition and ongoing maintenance of this facility involves all department staff. The facility reopened this week following a week of closure for annual maintenance. Staff has received positive comments from users regarding the changes made to the facility. With the Subway recently vacating its space at the facility, staff took the opportunity to convert that space to a new cardio studio and relocated the cardio equipment to that location.

Mr. Carter commended staff on the amount of energy and effort put into the facility last year and during the past year.

Mr. Eads addressed the Board and stated that many improvements have been made to the facility, including resurfacing of the courts, remodeling the restrooms on the main floor, installing FRP board on the walls on the main floor to prevent holes being punched in the walls. During the shutdown this year, many touch ups were made on some of the improvements that began last year. He also acknowledged Rick Owings, who has been with the department for 24 years and moved to the TLRC when the department purchased it. He also acknowledged the Operations staff, who have been of tremendous help during the past 17 months. He stated that the lights on the courts will be replaced soon with more energy efficient lighting. The HVAC project is also being completed with a grant from the Department of Energy. Variable speed controls on the air handlers will contribute to a huge energy savings as well. Mr. Eads stated that he also manages the concessions area and concession sales have increased 25% since Subway is no longer in the facility.

Ms. St. John asked if the number of special events has increased since the department took possession of the facility.

Mr. Sterner stated that the staff doesn't have access to the records of the previous owner, so he's unsure of how many events were held at the facility in the past. However, he does know that some events that had been at the facility in the past and had moved to other venues because of cleanliness of the facility and other factors, have now come back to the facility. He sees that as a very positive sign. He hopes to be up to about 22 events in 2011 and his goal is to attain 24 events per year.

Ms. St. John asked if the seniors have been receptive to the new facility.

Mr. Sterner stated that many facilities like the TLRC have difficulty filling the facility at certain times of the day. He stated that the use of the facility by the seniors is the answer to that problem. They fill the facility when other user groups are at work or school and the seniors have been very happy in the facility. They play full court basketball, walleyball, and drop in activities such as euchre, bingo, bunko, dancing, and many other activities.

Mr. Renneisen stated that 150+ more senior participations are occurring at the TLRC than at the former site, the BACC.

## D-3. Recreation Division – TLRC Reports

Ms. Prange addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the membership activity during the past year. Significant highlights include participation and retention percentages. The member check-ins were close to 63,000

which is a 38% increase over the same time the prior year. Year to date there are over 40,000 member check-ins putting them on target to surpass the 63,000 check-ins. The Silver Sneakers participation has nearly doubled over the prior year from 750 participations to over 1,500. Senior program participation has also increased significantly. A great group of seniors participate regularly and interact well with the staff. The retention rate of memberships has increased from 45% to 56%. A member satisfaction survey was completed in May and indicates that of those who participated in the survey 84% are either Very Satisfied or Satisfied with their experience at the facility and 80% are Very Likely or Likely to recommend the facility to others. The probability of membership renewal is 75% Very Likely or Likely to continue. The focus on the year ahead is to not only maintain current member satisfaction but to continue to develop a loyalty to the facility through member involvement with staff on a daily basis. A new member referral program is being launched in the fall to capitalize on available internal marketing in gaining new members and to reward current members for their loyalty to the facility. The partnership with the Bloomington Hospital will allow for some co-marketing strategies that will enhance the partnerships through the Employee Wellness Program. Each entity will have the ability to promote each other's services. The goal of the TLRC Employee Wellness Program is to develop long term relationships with businesses which not only increase the membership base but also promote program participation at the TLRC and throughout the department. There are currently 1,900 members and 515 Silver Sneaker members.

Mr. Hoffmann suggested that staff reach out to Indiana University to partner for staff and faculty memberships. Many of these employees find it more convenient to work out on the west side of town or would prefer not to work out and compete with students for equipment at the University facility.

Ms. St. John commented on how many improvements have been made at the facility and how great it looks!

Ms. Buuck addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the fitness programming at TLRC. Prior to the department purchasing the facility, fitness programming at the TLRC was limited to Jazzercise and personal training. In the last year, depending on the time of year, up to 20 different fitness programs are offered. These programs include Zumba, Kickboxing, NIA, Line Dance, Pilates, Boot Camp, Strictly Strength, Hip Hop, Absolutely Fit, and more, including the Silver Sneakers program and health screenings. She added that there are over 500 Silver Sneakers members which is a fitness program that is paid by many insurance companies for senior members. Over eight group exercise classes are offered for the Silver Sneakers in addition to their membership benefits. She stated that the fitness room downstairs was completely underutilized in the past and it is now being used all day and into the evenings. The 4,000 square foot Fitness Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor has undergone some major changes as well. A preventative maintenance contract was established with Bob Block Fitness for upkeep of all fitness machines. The area was painted and the machines reorganized based on National Strength and Conditioning Association standards for fitness facilities. New functional fitness equipment (stability balls, BOSU trainers, balance discs, kettle bells, jump ropes, therabands), cable cross machine, and a new treadmill have been purchased. New Fitness Attendants have been hired to supervise, clean, maintain, and assist members in the fitness area. In addition, an orientation to weight and cardio equipment with new members and children ages 12-14 has been established. The cardio equipment has all been relocated to the space that formerly housed the Subway restaurant. Feedback about the new changes from members has been very positive.

Mr. Gilchrist addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the turf operations and usage at TLRC. Indoor turf is a big operation at the facility and the turf was one of the first things replaced after moving in. He acknowledged Bloomington Soccer LLC and Chris Doran for his excellent management of the soccer programs at the facility. The field is used from 5-10pm almost daily and sometimes even later. More than half of the income generated from the turf came from the Bloomington Soccer LLC programs. Other user groups, from Little League to LaCrosse have also rented turf time. The different activities that occur on the turf have been surprising and challenging to the staff to make modifications for different sports. Adult Sports is another area that Mr. Gilchrist manages at the TLRC. Prior to acquiring the TLRC, adult programs were difficult to run because of a lack of facility space. Since moving in to the TLRC, facility space is no longer an issue. Adult sports such as basketball, volleyball, and flag football have been offered at the facility. These adult sports served more than 600 adult participants. He feels the resurgence of the recreational adult volleyball league is one of the great success stories of the past year. Mr. Gilchrist added that he would like to see an increase in the number of informal sports offerings available in the near future.

Ms. Brinson addressed the Board and provided them with an update on the Youth Basketball Program. Many changes to the program took place by merging the existing programs at the TLRC with the existing programs from the Banneker Community Center. Staff wanted to make the transition into the new system as seamless as possible for the participants. The decision was made to offer a Developmental League and a Skilled League for both the Fall and Winter Seasons. The Developmental League was meant for the beginner player that wanted a skill building league with rule adjustments geared toward different age groups. The Skilled League was geared toward the player that already knew the basics and wanted a more advanced skill building challenge, with less rule adjustments and an end of season tournament. The Developmental League was run at the Banneker Community Center for Pre K-3<sup>rd</sup> grades and the 2-3 grades played at the TLRC. The Skilled League was made of participants in grades K-8. All of those practices and games were played at the TLRC from January – March. The administrative duties of the program were split between Ms. Brinson and Mr. Sterner. One basketball supervisor was also available during practices and games. Staff was able to work with two experienced officials to help coordinate the training and scheduling of game officials for all leagues and all three seasons. Dave Pillar and Chip Snivley were a huge help during the first seasons. During the 2009-2010 Basketball Program there were over 1,200 participants, over 225 volunteer coaches and over 600 games played. Ms. Brinson thanked the many sponsors that help offset the cost of the Youth Basketball Program. Future program includes Fall 2010 Season One which runs from September 6 – October 14. The Winter 2010 Season Two runs October 25 – December 18, and the Winter/Spring 2011 Season Three runs January 10 – April 9.

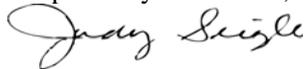
Mr. Renneisen offered his thanks to the Board, the Mayor, the community and the City Council who all played a huge part in the acquisition of the TLRC. He also offered his thanks to the staff at the facility and all department staff that have done such a superb job in its first year of operation.

D-4. Administration Division – No Report

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



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Judy Seigle, Secretary Board of Park Commissioners