



**CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
parks and recreation**

AGENDA

City of Bloomington Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Meeting: Tuesday, October 28, 2014 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 September 23, 2014
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted September 24, 2014 – October 27, 2014
- 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 - Deb Wehman (Robin Hobson)
- B-3. Parks Partner Award -
- B-4. Staff Introductions - Cara Murray – SPEA Fellow

C. OTHER BUSINESS

- C-1. Review/Approval of Consultant Contract for Design Services for Black Lumber Trail (Dave Williams)
- C-2. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Bloomington Blades Youth Hockey Association (Dee Tuttle)
- C-3. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Bloomington Blades High School Hockey Association (Dee Tuttle)
- C-4. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Bloomington Figure Skating Club (Dee Tuttle)
- C-5. Review/Discussion of 2015 Price Schedule (Division Directors)
- C-6. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Hoosier Energy for Improvements to Wapehani Mountain Bike Park (Dave Williams)

D. REPORTS

- D-1. Operation Division - Griffy/Natural Environments and Stress Report (Alan Ewert)
- D-2. Recreation Division -
- D-3. Sports Division -
- D-4. Administration Division -

ADJOURNMENT



Board of Park Commissioners
Regular Meeting
Minutes

Tuesday, October 28, 2014
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

City Hall Council Chambers
401 N. Morton St.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Coyne at 4:05 p.m.

Board Present: John Carter, Les Coyne, Joe Hoffmann, Jane St. John

Staff Present: Mick Renneisen, Lesilyn Neely, John Turnbull, Becky Higgins, Dee Tuttle, Kim Ecenbarger, Leslie Brinson, Ellen Campbell, Julie Ramey, Dave Williams, Marcia Veldman, Paula McDevitt, Steve Cotter and Kevin Marzahl

- A-1. Approval of Minutes of September 23, 2014 Meeting
- A-2. Approval of Claims Submitted September 24, 2014 – October 27, 2014
- A-3. Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments
- A-4. Review of Business Report

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

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES

B-1. Public Comment Period

Lucille Bertuccio, 815 S Rose Avenue, addressed the Board. She urged the Board to call off the deer cull scheduled in November. She stated that in order to implement the proper deer management plan it is necessary to count the deer. She requested not to allow bow hunting in the city, which is a dangerous and inappropriate activity. She stated some people claim that those who are anti deer kill are just like climate deniers, that they just don't understand how things are going. She thinks they should think of this too. Plant hardiness zones have changed from five to six, periods of rainfall and drought have altered, snow cover and flooding have changed, and this affects the flora and fauna of this area. She stated those who call for a deer cull and blame the deer for what is going on are the climate deniers. She thanked the Board. Mr. Coyne thanked Ms. Bertuccio for her comments.

Robert Shull, 3915 N. Kinser Pike, Bloomington, addressed the Board. He thanked Bloomington Parks and Recreation for the support they have given the small but growing pickleball community in Bloomington. He asked the attendees how many of them had watched or played pickleball? He explained it is played with a wood or a graphite paddle and a standardized whiffle ball on a court the size of a badminton court with a net that is lower than a tennis net. He stated that John Turnbull has the URL which is available for anyone interested or to view the NBC News story that covers the fastest growing sport in America. He stated it is more than a sport for many in the community. There are 77 people on their mailing list of which 50 people may play occasionally. Many of these people are snow birds and play in Florida or Arizona and then come back for a couple of months and play here. The group started about four years ago and built the community to what it is now and is typical for 18 people to show up on any day. He stated that the reconstruction of the RCA Park courts has really excited the entire group. One of the three former tennis courts has been converted into two pickleball courts and the group is ecstatic and it is really nice to play there. They played Sunday and it was a little cool but very nice. They now have permission to chalk line a court on the tennis court next to the pickleball courts and put up a temporary net so that 16 players can be accommodated. Now, not so many people have to sit and wait for a turn. They started in the Twin Lakes Recreation Center and still play there three days a week. They have recently been asked to share the cost of maintaining these courts, which was a shock to some of the group. They have been playing there for free but are adapting and hope that someday they will feel that the TLRC is as supportive as the outdoor community building efforts. They feel that pickleball is good for Bloomington and is a wise investment because retirees who are trying to decide where to retire

will see a strong pickleball community as a significant factor in their decision making on where to retire. Mr. Shull thanked the Board.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Shull for his comments.

B-2. Bravo Award – Deb Wehman

Ms. Ecenbarger addressed the Board on behalf of Robin Hobson who was unable to attend. It is a special pleasure to honor Deb Wehman as this month's Bravo Award recipient for her active and dedicated involvement as a participant and volunteer in the Community Garden program. Deb contacted the garden program about a year ago before moving to Bloomington. She relocated from Richmond where she practiced podiatry for 25 years. She was keenly interested in becoming a community gardener the following spring. She toured the Willie Streeter Garden site and wanted to help out by making a donation to the Parks Foundation which she earmarked for Willie Streeter site improvements in 2014. Deb was the first to sign up in February for new gardener registration. She was a garden leader volunteer at Willie Streeter Gardens and helped other gardeners access the communal tools for a few hours a week. She and her partner Joanne rented an adjacent plot for growing food for donation to the Plant a Row for the Hungry program. In May the garden staff began the demolition and rebuilding of compost bins at Willie Streeter Gardens. Deb agreed the funds she gave the winter prior would be used for this project. She and Joanne contributed some effort with digging and laying out the posts and provided staff with encouragement by fortifying them with zucchini bread on a spring work day. It has been a pleasure to see Deb being so engaged in the garden as a donor interested in the on ground results of her gift and as a personable garden leader volunteer. Deb took on the task of organizing the program stock of stored tomato cages for the off season. We appreciate her cheerful willingness to become a part of the program in anyway she can be of service; that is when she is not busy logging better than 3,000 miles on her bike this summer; or enjoying cultural events in town or on campus or making the connection to life in Bloomington. We congratulate Deb for all of her hard work, her dedication to helping her fellow gardeners have a positive experience and for sharing food with community members in need. We thank her for sharing her time and resources as she demonstrates what it means to take a measured plot of soil into a garden and a place into a home. With gratitude we present Deb Wehman with our October Bravo Award.

Ms. Wehman thanked the Board and Bloomington Parks and Recreation for the unexpected award. She didn't know anything about pickleball but really came here because she knew Indiana University was here and had a lot to offer. She was blown away by the parks department here; not just the gardens, but the bike trails and the B-Line Trail. She expressed her appreciation and gratitude. She stated to keep up the good work and she thanked the Board.

Mr. Coyne thanked Ms. Wehman and extended his appreciation for her efforts.

B-3. Parks Partner Award – None this month

B-4. Staff Introductions – Cara Murray – SPEA Fellow

Ms. Murray addressed the Board. She is a new master's candidate at SPEA studying public affairs. Her focus is on environmental policy, natural resource management and sustainability. She came from Atlanta, Georgia and attended the University of Georgia where she earned her undergrad in Spanish and International Affairs. Since graduating she has worked in Atlanta as a tutor for high school students studying for the SAT and ACT and worked at REI selling recreational equipment and helping people get outside. She looks forward to working on projects she has been involved with here, such as Leonard Springs Nature Days, getting people outside, making maps, and working on the mowing reduction project.

Mr. Coyne thanked Ms. Murray for her interest and involvement.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

C-1. Review/Approval of Consultant Contract for Design Services for Black Lumber Trail

Mr. Williams, Operations Director, addressed the Board seeking approval of the consultant contract for design services for the construction of the Black Lumber Trail spur. The property was acquired from the Black Lumber Company two years ago. The department owns the entire 30' wide right of way from the west side of Henderson to the east side of Walnut. It is intended for use as a future pedestrian and bike trail connection to the railroad switchyard property which is across Walnut Street and is a future community park. The project is funded through our local MPO utilizing federal highway funds, administered by the MPO. It has a stringent design selection process that has been completed through RFQ interviews and submittals from about half a dozen design consultants which were prequalified through the Indiana Department of Transportation. Staff recommended that Eagle Ridge Engineering, Brock Ridgeway head the project. He has done a

tremendous amount of work with the City of Bloomington in several different departments and was the designer for the Phase I and Phase II sections of the Cascades Trail. He is familiar with working on an INDOT project, submitted a good cost quote for his work for which the City will be responsible for 20% of the cost. Funding for the construction of the project comes from the federal government through INDOT at an 80/20% cost share with INDOT taking on most of the financial burden for design and construction. Mr. Williams stated that the 20% is not coming from the department but rather from the Redevelopment Commission utilizing TIF funding. The funding has been secured and an agreement was signed several months ago. If the project stays on schedule design will be completed by next spring and construction will begin in early 2016.

Mr. Carter asked about the completion timeline. Mr. Williams stated that it is a fairly simple project, 30' wide and one-third of a mile long with no crossings or amenities and it should be completed and usable in 2016.

Mr. Hoffmann asked if it would be signed at the Henderson end. Mr. Williams stated that part of Eagle Ridge's consultant team includes a landscape architect firm, Cornerstone Planning and Design. They hope to have entry and exit nodes at each end with visible interpretative signage for a multi use trail.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the consultant contract for design services for the Black Lumber Trail. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Williams.

C-2. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Bloomington Blades Youth Hockey Association

Ms. Tuttle, Sports Coordinator and manager of the Frank Southern Ice Arena, addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with Bloomington Blades Youth Hockey Association travel program. She stated the program is designed for the more serious hockey players between the ages of 7 – 14 years of age. The travel team plays home games and practices at the arena and has away games at other facilities. The program is open to all Blades and house players. Ms. Tuttle introduced Mr. Alan Streib, president of Bloomington Blades Youth Hockey Association.

Mr. Streib addressed the Board. He explained he has taken over the position from Kathleen Oliver who held the position for the past few years. He stated the association is a 501c3 charitable organization with a mission to provide a means whereby children ages 12 and under in Bloomington and the surrounding area may play ice hockey in a competitive and organized manner under the instruction and supervision of qualified coaches. The organization hopes to assist these children to develop athletic skills, a sense of citizenship, sportsmanship and fair play. All coaches and board members are volunteers. They offer travel hockey programs in four age divisions, 8 and under, 10 and under, 12 and under and 14 and under referred to as Mites, Squirts, PeeWees and Bantams. They are a member association of USA Hockey, the national governing body for organized amateur ice hockey. The Squirt, PeeWee and Bantam teams participate in the Buckeye Travel Hockey League, based out of Cincinnati, playing games in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. They play several tournaments each year in Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Missouri and Tennessee. Hockey instruction is based on the USA Hockey development model. They subsidize the operation of the program and pass some of the costs along to their member families. Last year the program fees were about \$10,000 short of covering their costs. They make up the difference through fundraising, seeking charitable contributions and offer and operate an equipment rental for the Parks & Recreation House Hockey Program. This year there are approximately 60 participants. Last year they rented 180 hours of ice time from Frank Southern Ice Arena that provided over \$31,000 revenue for the Parks Department.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Streib for the overview.

Mr. Carter asked about equipment donations. Mr. Streib stated they always accept hockey equipment donations.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with Bloomington Blades Youth Hockey Association.

Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-3. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Bloomington Blades High School Hockey Association

Ms. Tuttle addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with Bloomington Blades High School Hockey Association. The Bloomington Blades High School Hockey Association competes against other teams around the state. Membership is open to all Bloomington community players and surrounding areas. All home games and practices take place at the Frank Southern Ice Arena.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with Bloomington Blades High School Hockey Association. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

C-4. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Bloomington Figure Skating Club

Ms. Tuttle addressed the Board seeking approval of the partnership agreement with Bloomington Figure Skating Club. She stated the Bloomington Figure Skating Club aims to provide opportunities for the Bloomington community to participate in a diverse figure skating program. The Club promotes the growth of figure skating as a healthy, beneficial and excellent recreational activity for individuals interested in an enhanced and competitive figure skating experience. The Club also assists with two of Parks special events; the Skate and Scare event held last Saturday and Skate with Santa held in December.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the partnership agreement with Bloomington Figure Skating Club. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Hoffmann thanked all three organizations. Mr. Coyne thanked Ms. Tuttle for her management and operation of the Arena.

Mr. Renneisen made a request for a schedule adjustment to accommodate a timeframe of a visiting presenter, Dr. Alan Ewert, from Indiana University School of Public Health.
The Board agreed to the schedule adjustment.

D-1. Operations Division – Griffy/Natural Environments and Stress Report

Mr. Ewert addressed the Board and introduced Ms. Chang, the research manager and a PhD student in the Department of Recreation, Park and Tourism Studies.

He stated that two summers ago the Parks Department allowed the group to collect data at Lake Griffy on the effect of visitation to the park on levels of stress. He reported that society deals with stress using four different methods, including coping strategies, positive psychology, leisure coping mechanisms, pharmacological and contact with nature.

Mr. Ewert spoke about a new study they would like to begin next month at Lake Griffy, and other sites, to measure the effect of visitation to natural environments on stress. Similar to the last study they want to do a combination of psychological and biophysical measures. Two summers ago they measured Cortisol, a steroid hormone, which is released into the body in the form of energy for “fight or flight” in response to stress. If Cortisol stays in the body for an extended period of time it has detrimental effects on the body. They contacted visitors at Lake Griffy and asked if they would like to participate in their study. If participants agreed to participate, saliva samples were taken, frozen and taken to a lab at I.U. to record measurements. They found there were changes in levels of Cortisol.

The new study will involve taking measurements at three different locations.

- Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, a highly natural environment offering a variety of natural based activities (hiking trails, fishing, boating, & picnicking).
- Bryan Park, the middle range, one of the most visited city parks, centrally located with easy access and open space.
- Twin Lakes Recreation Center, a highly urban environment, offering fitness activities, basketball courts, indoor soccer, and indoor track.

The study will look at college age and working age citizens. They want to determine if there is a difference between the type of location relative to the reduction of levels of Cortisol, i.e. stress. And they want to find if the length of the visit results in lower levels of stress.

Mr. Ewert advised that the data collection team is established. They would like to begin on November 11th, weather permitting. They will spend 2-3 days at each site, at the same time of day and the same time of week. The participants will be doing the same level of activity. The study will include data collection in the form of saliva samples and interviews of participants. At the conclusion of the study they hope to determine what the relationship is to reduction of stress and location and how citizens are using these locations for stress reduction.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Ewert for the presentation and wished him well with the future study. Mr. Hoffmann inquired about the timetable of the study.

Mr. Ewert stated if the schedule works, they should have data collected by the first week in December from all three areas and results available by January.

Ms. St. John stated it would be good in promoting our services and to be able to say it is statistically beneficial to the users.

Mr. Hoffmann advised that we all instinctively feel that parks are a contributor to our health and having the proof is important.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Ewert and Ms. Chang.

C-5. Review/Discussion of 2015 Price Schedule

Mr. Renneisen addressed the Board. He advised each Division Director will address the proposed changes to their respective divisions. The fees are in the annually reviewed Price Schedule that is provided as part of the budget proposal. Mr. Renneisen stated that not every price changes every year. This will be a presentation only; no action will be taken by the Board until the November Board meeting.

Ms. St. John commented on the cover of the Price Schedule and thanked Ms. Ramey.

Mr. Renneisen introduced Mr. Turnbull, Division Director of Sports.

Mr. Turnbull addressed the Board and presented the changes to the Sports Division prices for 2015:

Page 3 – Adult Sports

- Olcott Park Field rental increase of \$2.00 in every category.

Page 4 – Aquatics

- Increase in the Economy Pass. A variable increase depending on the volume of visits or punches.
- Increase in group swim lessons of \$5.00.

Page 13 – Golf Services

- Addition of senior pass (62+) after 12 noon green fee/cart included \$30.00.
- Increase Season pass 5% across the board, depending on rounding, between \$10.00 - \$25.00.
- Addition of a Student season pass (18 and over with Student ID) \$375 and \$400.

Page 16 – TLRC

- Addition of senior daily pass at a reduced rate of \$7.00.

Mr. Hoffmann recommended updating columns to indicate 2015 in the TLRC listings.

Mr. Coyne stated he would be interested in the differential between in city and out of city and what that translates into, particularly at the Golf Course. Mr. Turnbull advised the information is available and he would provide it.

Mr. Renneisen introduced Ms. McDevitt, Recreation Services Division Director.

Ms. McDevitt addressed the Board and presented the changes to the Recreation Division prices for 2015:

Page 6 - Banneker Community Center

- Addition of facility rental bulk rate for users who commit to 20 hours per month or 5 hours per week.

Page 8 - Farmers Market

- Decrease in November space fees due to only 3 Saturdays in 2015.

Page 10 - Community Gardens

- Addition of a fee range for Garden clearing fees - to encourage gardeners to clean out their beds and allow staff to assess the amount of cleanup that needs to be done for various types and sizes of the beds.

Page 10 - Holiday Market Arts Fair

- Included jury fee and electricity with booth space fee.

Page 19 - Allison Jukebox

- Decrease in Whole building rental fees and Kitchen fee Category B and C.
- Addition of wording for clarification - 2 week sessions.

Page 20 – Miscellaneous

- Addition of Fitness in the Park Permit fee of 10.00 per hour.

Mr. Renneisen introduced Mr. Dave Williams, Operations Division Director.

Mr. Williams addressed the Board and presented the changes to the Operations Division prices for 2015:

Page 15 – Shelter Rental

- Increase Olcott Shelter from \$60 weekday/\$70 weekend and holiday to \$60 weekday/\$75 weekend and holiday.

Page 14 – Launch Permits

- Increase Griffy Lake daily launch fee from \$6.00 to \$7.00.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Williams.

Mr. Renneisen stated there are no changes in any Administrative fees.

He stated the final approval for the Price Schedule will be presented at the November board meeting and will be published the first of the year.

Mr. Renneisen presented a graphic of the Pricing & Cost Recovery Pyramid in the Price Schedule, as a reference to audience members. He stated it drives the department's pricing philosophy. The more there is community benefit at the bottom of the pyramid, the more likely that the activity will be subsidized. Examples include parks and trails where no fee is charged for use by the general public.

The higher up the pyramid the more the public/user benefits individually. As individuals benefit more from the activity, the more likely they will be charged some percent of the cost of the operation. Services at the top of the pyramid tend to be the only beneficiaries and will likely be asked to provide 75% or more of the cost of the service. Examples include participation in golf or tennis lessons.

Mr. Coyne stated that the pricing schedule approach has been used for years and has proven to be very effective and fair. Mr. Renneisen requested any feedback from the public in the next month. The next Park Board Meeting is November 17th. Feedback should be sent to Parks@bloomington.in.gov or let a board member know and it will be taken into consideration before it is finalized in November.

C-6. Review/Approval of Partnership Agreement with Hoosier Energy for Improvements to Wapehani Mountain Bike Park

Mr. Williams presented for the Board's review and approval the Partnership Agreement with Hoosier Energy for Improvements to Wapehani Mountain Bike Park. Hoosier Energy has constructed a new headquarters on a 13 ½ acre site immediately south of Wapehani Mountain Bike Park. Staff has been working closely with them since they broke ground. It is a beautiful new facility and the department is happy to be their neighbor. Hoosier Energy has approached Parks and Recreation to sponsor improvements to the park for the benefit of the public and for their employees at the site. The improvements would include a small shelter house on the south side of Wapehani Mountain Bike Park within walking distance via a soft surface trail from a gated entrance on their property. Staff has vetted this with the City Planning Department. There are steep slopes requiring the department to be very strategic about the size and footprint of the improvements. Staff obtained approval from the Planning Department for the site improvements and for construction of a small shelter house. Hoosier Energy has proposed to build the improvements at their expense. They would like to proceed and include it with the completion of their headquarters project by the end of the year. The partnership agreement would call for Hoosier Energy to complete the construction. Staff has provided input as to the size and materials. It will be a metal structure with a metal roof that will be appropriate for the dense forested and remote nature of Wapehani. Staff members Steve Cotter and Kevin Marzahl provided feedback to what would be appropriate for the use of mountain bikers and other recreational users. It is a good partnership that will improve department facilities and usage of them and also the employees of Hoosier Energy. Hopefully this will plant the seed for future corporate cooperative ventures.

Mr. Williams introduced Matt Mabrey, Facilities Construction Manager for Hoosier Energy.

Mr. Mabrey addressed the Board. He stated he is responsible for constructing the new cooperate facility and moving 135 employees there in the middle of December. Hoosier Energy is a generation in transmission electric cooperative, serving 18 member rural electric cooperatives in southern Indiana and southwestern Illinois. They are happy to partner with the Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department to build a 110' soft trail and a 16' x 16' shelter house. They see this as a mutually beneficial project to both park users and to their employees. Mr. Mabrey stated how much the park is utilized. It is important to the community and their employees. The employees will be able to enjoy the park during their lunch hour or after work and park users will use the shelter and enjoy the setting.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Maybrey.

Mr. Carter asked about the size of the shelter. Mr. Maybrey confirmed it was 16' X 16'.

Mr. Hoffmann made a motion to approve the Partnership Agreement with Hoosier Energy for Improvements to Wapehani Mountain Bike Park. Mr. Carter seconded the motion. Motion unanimously carried.

Mr. Coyne thanked Mr. Williams.

D. REPORTS

D-1. Operations Division – Griffy/Natural Environments and Stress Report

D-2. Recreation Division –

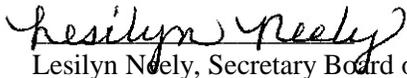
D-3. Sports Division –

D-4. Administration Division – No Report

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lesilyn Neely".

Lesilyn Neely, Secretary Board of Park Commissioners