



A-1 May 15, 2025

City of Bloomington Board of Park Commissioners
 Regular Meeting: Tuesday, April 22, 2025, 4pm-5:30pm
 Council Chambers, 401 N Morton St, Bloomington, IN
 Zoom

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Kathleen Mills at 4:12pm
 Present: Kathleen Mills, Ellen Rodkey,
 Virtual: Jim Whitlatch
 Absent: Israel Herrera

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

A1	Approval of Minutes of March 25, 2025 Regular Meeting
A2	Approval of Claims Submitted March 24th through April 21, 2025
A3	Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments
A4	Review of Business Reports
A5	Review/Approval of Credit Card Refunds
A6	Approval of Surplus
A7	Agreement with Value Fence for Winslow Sports Park fence repairs
A8	Agreement with Commercial Service for Banneker preventive maintenance
A9	Agreement with Frontier for Banneker check valve repairs
A10	Agreement with Steve's Welding for Griffy boat launch repairs
<i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>	

B. PUBLIC HEARINGS/APPEARANCES

None

C. OTHER BUSINESS

C1	<p><u>Tim Street, Director</u> presented Resolution 25-02: Acceptance of Hopewell Commons. Resolution 25-02 mirrored similar resolutions passed by the Redevelopment Commission assigning ongoing responsibilities to the Bloomington Parks and Recreation for the park area, Hopewell Commons, of the Hopewell East phase of redevelopment. An official transfer of the ownership of the parcels would follow. Temporary Pickle Ball Courts will be operated until lots are sold in the future. Staff recommended approval of Resolution 25-02.</p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve Resolution 25-02 Acceptance of Hopewell Commons. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C2	<p><u>Hsiung Marler, General Manager Switchyard Park</u> presented the agreement with Chef for Hire. BPRD wished to provide food to campers at the Banneker Camp summer program. Vendor would provide vended, prepackaged meals that would meet the USDA Summer Food Service Program requirements for 80-100 participants. As part of the USDA summer food service program, Banneker would be reimbursed for every meal served. Staff recommended approval of the agreement with Chef for Hire, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Funding was pending grant funding from USDA.</p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Chef for Hire for Banneker summer camp. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C3	<p><u>Bill Ream, Community Events Coordinator</u>, presented the agreement with Get Out Bloomington. BPRD wished to continue the partnership with Get Out Bloomington for the sixth year. The partnership would provide the community with an opportunity to participate in solving puzzles and challenges during the Escape Room 2025 event, known as the Escape from Oz. Staff recommended approval of the partnership with Get Out Bloomington. Revenue would be split</p>

	<p>50/50, BPRD portion would be deposited in Community Events Non-Reverting fund. Revenue was not to exceed \$2,200.</p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Get Out of Bloomington for 2025 Escape Room. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C4	<p><u>Satoshi Kido, Sports Division Director</u> presented the MOU with Economic & Sustainable Development Department (ESD). BPRD and ESD wished to collaborate during the 2025 outdoor swim season to offer free access to the city's two outdoor pools on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays when the AccuWeather RealFeel® temperature was 90° or higher. ESD had committed to \$100,000.00 for admission to Stay Cool Bloomington Days at City Pools. Staff recommended approval of the MOU with ESD.</p> <p>Board Comments: <i>Kathleen Mills inquired: how would the public be informed it would be a Stay Cool Day. Satoshi Kido responded: the public would be notified through the Sports hotline and it would be posted on Social Media. Ellen Rodkey inquired: when would the Stay Cool Program begin. Satoshi Kido responded: the program would begin when the pools opened and above 90°.</i></p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the MOU with Economic & Sustainable Development Department for Stay Cool Bloomington. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C5	<p><u>Rebecca Swift, Operations & Development Division Director</u> presented the agreement with Aquatic Control. BPRD wished to continue vegetation management at Griffy Lake. The contractor would create and update the Griffy Lake aquatic vegetation management plans after completing a Tier II survey, and would treat invasive Eurasian milfoil. Staff recommended approval of the agreement with Aquatic Control in an amount not to exceed \$8,050. Funding for the project would be 20% from Natural Resources Non-Reverting Fund, and 80% through DNR LARE Grant.</p> <p>Board Comments: <i>Ellen Rodkey inquired: what was Eurasia milfoil. Rebecca Swift responded: an aggressive invasive plant that is submerged, but can grow very tall and sometimes can be seen from the surface. It impacts recreation activities, but also out competes with native species and crowd's fish. Ellen Rodkey inquired: how long have we had the program. Rebecca Swift responded: we have partnered with Aquatic Control since 2004, and have applied for the LARE funding since 2002, but are not always award those funds.</i></p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Aquatic Control for Griffy aquatic invasives surveying and treatment. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C6	<p><u>Rebecca Swift, Operations & Development Division Director</u> presented the agreement with Bluestone Tree. Due to the amount of accumulated green waste debris, BPRD wished to have a vendor horizontal grind and remove 100+ tons green waste at the City Nursey. Staff recommended approval of the agreement with Bluestone Tree in an amount not to exceed \$17,165.00. Funding for the project would be \$8,000.00 from Urban Forestry General fund and \$9,165.00 from Public Works fund.</p> <p>Board Comments: <i>Ellen Rodkey inquired: if the mulch was kept for department projects. Rebecca Swift responded: yes.</i></p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Bluestone Tree for green waste yard grinding. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C7	<p><u>Rebecca Swift, Operations & Development Division Director</u> presented the agreement with Engledow. Due to the retirement of a long time employee, there was a need for professional irrigation support. Vendor would provide irrigation startup, monthly inspections and emergency repairs as need, and possible irrigation winterization services for irrigation system at Switchyard Park. Staff recommended approval of the contract with Engledow Group in an amount not to exceed, \$15,441. Funding for the services would be from Switchyard Park General Fund.</p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Engledow for Switchyard irrigation support. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>

C8	<p><u>Rebecca Swift, Operations & Development Division Director</u> presented the Review of Property Acceptance: Southern Meadows connector rail bridge. Staff recommended acceptance of the 1.1 acres located approximately 350ft southeast of the intersection of the Bloomington Rail Trail (BRT) and Rogers Street. The owner had offered to transfer the parcel to Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department for a sum of \$10.00. Acquiring the property would connect the BRT to the new Southern Meadows (SOMO) neighborhood and Clear Creek Elementary School. SOMO would maintain the trail south of the bridge. The bridge had been inspected and found to be structurally sound.</p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the acceptance of Southern Meadows 1.1 acres located approximately 350ft southeast of intersection of the Bloomington Rail Trail. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C9	<p><u>Tim Street, Director</u> presented the review of requested no-build easement. A fire inspection revealed the need for a “no build” easement on the north side of The Retreat, an affordable housing development in part subsidized by the City of Bloomington HAND. Which encroached by 22’ into the portion of Switchyard Park that was home to “Berm 16”. Due to environmental contamination and capping concerns, the City had no plans to build in the area. Staff recommended conceptual approval of the 13’ wide “no build” easement on the east side of Switchyard Park. Document would follow.</p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion for the conceptual approval of the no-build easement at Switchyard Park. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>
C10	<p><u>Tim Street, Director</u> presented the agreement with Everywhere Signs. Due to age and wear, staff wished to have custom vehicle wraps replaced on two Banneker Community Center buses. The wrapped buses were easier to identify during pick-ups, drop-offs, and field trips creating a smoother and safer experience, while providing high-visibility advertisement for Banneker’s program. Staff recommended approval of the contract with Everywhere Signs in an amount not to exceed \$12,560.</p> <p>Board Comments: <i>Kathleen Mills inquired: on the how long the wraps lasted. Tim Street responded: the previous ones had lasted five to six years.</i></p> <p><i>Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Everywhere Signs for two bus wraps. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i></p>

D. REPORTS

D1	<p><u>Becky Higgins, Recreation Division Director</u> presented the Community Events 2025 Season Preview</p> <p>Programs highlighted: Winter Palooza, Artic Adventure, Pet Expo, Spring Break Series, Corazon de Jaripeo, Community Gardens programs, Health and Wellness programs, Farmers’ Market, International Festival, Community Zoo by You, Mad Paws Doggie Egg Hunt, Children’s Expo, 50+ Expo, Nature Sounds, Flights of Fancy, Summer Launch Party, A Fair of the Arts, Performing Arts Series, Touch a Truck, Escape from OZ, Rainbow Rink Skate Night, Adult Field Day, Touch a Truck at the Fair, 4th of July Parade, Drool in the Pool, Junk in the Trunk, Glow Week, Trick or Treat Trail, Festival of Ghost Stories, Pumpkin Launch, Dearly Departed, Howl at the Moon, Skate & Scare, Holiday Market, Sensory Santa, Santa Paws, and Skate with Santa.</p>
D2	<p><u>Rebecca Swift, Operations & Development Division Director</u> introduced Environmental Resources Advisory Council (ERAC) 2024 Chair, Denise Gardiner.</p> <p><u>Denise Gardiner presented</u> the 2024 Annual Report. Topics and initiative discussed by the 9 voting members, and one ex-officio member council were:</p> <p>Bloomington Bicentennial Gateway Sign, the lighting and its effect on birds, the council had been pleased with the final design and the removal of invasive pear trees at that site.</p> <p>Projects at Hopewell, Building and Trades Park, and the Duke Power Line Trail. Plans had been shared with ERAC, giving council an opportunity to look at blueprints and discusses environmental or logistical impacts.</p>

	<p>Management Plans at Millers Showers, Griffy, and Rogers Family Park were discussed as well as throughout the parks system.</p> <p>The research and discussion that took place with DNR Representative, regarding possibility of stocking Giffy lake with non-native trout. Due to results from research, DNR recommended against the proposal.</p> <p>Attention that was given to native plants, and its progress throughout the parks.</p> <p>The deer management plan and deer browse study.</p> <p>The new project, Griffy Lake insect inventory.</p> <p>Content of educational programs that were offered.</p>
D3	<p><u>Tim Street Director</u> presented the Final Report on 2024 Strategic Goals The report included 115 goals, 81 of which (70%) were completed or substantially completed. Another ten were in progress and would be completed in near future, and 24 were incomplete unable to be completed, or were no longer applicable based on final 2024 budgets or changing conditions or priorities.</p> <p>Board Comments: <i>Ellen Rodkey commented: that was a great completion rate.</i></p>
D4	<p><u>Tim Street Director</u> the 2024 Annual Report was finalized and would go out in near future.</p>

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathleen Mills opened the floor to public comments.

None were received.

Tim Street, Director gave department update:

Thanked ERAC for the support and work they do, and their advisory capacity

Grand Opening of Hopewell Commons

Bryan Park pool liner was installed

Bryan Park shelters received new roofs

Building Trades accessibility improvements were getting ready to begin

Pools and Spray Pad would open May 24th

Arbor Day coming up, celebrating the 41st year of Bloomington being a Tree City USA, with a tree planting at Olcott Park.

Children's Expo at Switchyard Park on April 26th

The next Board of Park Commissioners Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 15th, 5pm in Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:07 pm