



A-1 September 25, 2025

City of Bloomington Board of Park Commissioners
 Regular Meeting Minutes: Thursday, August 28, 5:00-6:30pm
 Council Chambers, 401 N Morton St, Bloomington, IN
 Zoom

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Kathleen Mills at 5:02pm
 Present: Kathleen Mills and Israel Herrera
 Virtual: Jim Whitlatch
 Absent: Ellen Rodkey

A. CONSENT CALENDAR

A1	Approval of Minutes of July 17, 2025 Regular Meeting
A2	Approval of Claims Submitted July 17, 2025 through August 27, 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 Summer Star Foundation for Griffy Lake Nature Days
A8	Addendum with Sunset Hill Fence Co. for Fence Repairs
A9	Agreement with Earth Images for street tree replacements at Hopewell Commons
A10	Agreement with Monroe County History Center for Dearly Departed
A11	Agreement with Nature's Link for backflow and irrigation repairs
<i>Israel Herrera 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

B1	<u>Emily Buuck, Community Relations Coordinator presented the August Bravo Award to Madalyn McKenney:</u> Staff recommended Madalyn McKenney and her business, <i>Mad 4 My Dog</i> , for the August Bravo Award in recognition of their long-term support of the <i>Drool in the Pool</i> event. As a dedicated event partner for 9 years—and an involved supporter since the event's inception —Madalyn and her team had provided prizes, on-site expertise, and invaluable support to ensure the success and safety of the event. Their contribution helped make <i>Drool in the Pool</i> a beloved tradition in the community.
B2	<u>Rebecca Swift, Director of Operations and Development Division Director reorganized Don Foddrill:</u> After 28 years of service, Don Foddrill would retire from the Parks and Recreation Department on September 19, 2025. A key member of the Operations team, Don had played a crucial role in maintaining parks, facilities, and event infrastructure. His reliability and expertise had been essential to the department's success, and his contributions would be long remembered. Staff extend their congratulations and appreciation as he began his well-earned retirement.

C. OTHER BUSINESS

C1	<u>Rebecca Swift, Director of Operations and Development Division Director presented the addendum with Aztec Engineering:</u> Staff proposed an amendment to the 2020 agreement with Aztec Engineering for the design of the Bicentennial "Powerline Trail" along the Duke easement west of Rogers Street. Modifications include additional cross sections for Duke's review, design updates based on permit feedback, revisions to incorporate Glow Aggregates, and a timeline extension. The changes would increase the contract by \$21,677, and both parties have agreed to the amendment. <i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the addendum with Aztec Engineering. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>
C2	<u>Rebecca Swift, Director of Operations and Development Division Director presented the Agreement with E&B Paving:</u> To improve safety, accessibility, and overall park conditions, staff proposed asphalt repairs and improvements at several City of Bloomington park properties. Work included path and court repairs, drive replacement, and new asphalt installation at locations such as Miller-Showers Park, Griffy Lake Nature Preserve, RCA Community Park, and Rose Hill Cemetery. Staff recommended awarding a contract to E&B Paving for up to \$165,750, with funding from multiple Parks accounts, including \$45,000 from account 4655-18-18018B54510.

	<i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the agreement with E&B Paving. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>
C3	<u>Mary Welz, Natural Resource Manager presented the approval of Bird City USA application:</u> In 2016, Bloomington and Monroe County were designated as a Bird Town, a status that later lapsed. The Sassafras Audubon Society encouraged Bloomington Parks to pursue recertification, offering to cover the application fees. To qualify, applicants had to demonstrate efforts to conserve bird habitats, reduce threats to birds, and engage the community through education. The designation reflected a strong, ongoing commitment by staff, volunteers, and residents to protect local bird populations and their environments. <i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the Bird City Application. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>
C4	<u>Leslie Brinson, Director of Recreation presented the partnership with Cancer Support Community:</u> The agreement outlined the partnership agreement between Bloomington Parks and Recreation and the Cancer Support Community to bring a Breast Cancer Awareness event to Switchyard Park. The agreement outlined the roles and responsibilities of each organization. 2025 would be the first year for the partnership, and no money would be exchanged. Staff recommended approval of partnership with Cancer Support Community. <i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the partnership with Cancer Support Community. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>
C5	<u>Kevin Terrell, Program and Facility Coordinator- Banneker Community Center presented the agreement with Lithko Restoration Technologies (LRT), Inc.:</u> for safety, staff recommended replacing the deteriorating front steps at the Banneker Community Center, within IDNR and the Historic Preservation & Archeology parameters. A contract with LRT was proposed for up to \$68,915, funded by a \$22,500 IDNR grant and the remaining from Banneker Non-Reverting account. <i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the agreement with Lithko Restoration Technologies, Inc. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>
C6	<u>Satoshi Kido, Sports Division Director presented the agreement with Hunger Skateparks:</u> Staff proposed concrete repairs at Upper Cascades Skate Park to address major cracks and holes. Staff recommended approval of the contract with Hunger Skateparks for an amount not to exceed \$14,000. Project funding would come from the Sports Division General Fund. Board Comments: <i>Kathleen Mills inquired if the project could be done in colder weather, when the skate park was not being used. Satoshi Kido responded: it would need to be done in the fall before temperatures dropped too low.</i> <i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the agreement with Hunger Skateparks. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>
C7	<u>Mark Sterner, General Manager Twin Lakes Recreation Center presented the agreement with Bloomington Soccer:</u> Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department and David Prall proposed a partnership to offer community soccer programs promoting health and recreation for youth and adults. 2025, would be the 17th year for the partnership, and revenue was estimated at \$40,000. Staff recommended approval of the partnership. <i>Israel Herrera made a motion to approve the partnership with Bloomington Soccer. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion. Vote taken: motions unanimously carried 3-0.</i>

D. REPORT

D1	<u>Satoshi Kido, Sports Division Director introduced:</u> Dave Martin, Chair of the Board of the Bloomington Pickleball Club (BPC), who provided a brief update on the growth of pickleball in Bloomington. The presentation highlighted the Club's ongoing partnerships with the City, current programming at RCA Park, and future facility needs driven by rising community interest. Established in October 2022, BPC's mission was to promote both recreational and competitive play while fostering a positive and inclusive environment for all participants. The partnership supported the delivery of pickleball events and tournaments for youth and adults helping to expand the sport's reach and increase community participation.
D2	<u>Tim Street, Director presented the Strategic Goals 2025 Update</u> The in-progress strategic goals for 2025 were presented to the Board for review and information. The report outlined 99 goals across 20 focus areas; 25 completed, 15 substantially completed, 45 in progress, and 5 incomplete. In 2026, the Board would be updated on the final status of these goals. See August 28, 2025 Board of Park Commissioners packet for a complete list of goals.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kathleen Mills opened the floor for public comments: No comments were received.

Department Updates – Tim Street, Director

Leadership Transition: Becky Higgins retired in July after many years of dedicated service. We're pleased to announce, Leslie Brinson has been selected as the new Recreation Division Director.

Banneker Improvements: Shout out to Kevin, Hsiung and Doug Bruce for securing grant funding for the Banneker front steps. Additionally, Banneker has received a Black Historic Preservation grant, which will be used for facility repairs in 2026.

Bloomington Parks Foundation: The annual Parks Foundation Golf Outing has taken place and was a great success. Thanks to everyone who participated and supported the event.

2026 Budget Update: The proposed 2026 General Fund Budget has been present to the City Council, and will be brought to the Park Board for review at a later date.

Master Plan: The next site visit is scheduled for October 7th and 8th. The visit will include a provider workshop, a community workshop, and a Park Board meeting update. All community input gathered throughout the Master Plan process, will be used to make important strategic choices for the next five-year plan.

Seasonal Transitions:

Pools will be closed for the season.

Frank Southern Center will be opening.

The Tuesday Farmers' Market remains open.

Glow events are coming up.

Next Park Board Meeting: Scheduled for September 25th at 5:00 PM in Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:34pm