CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS
MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, March 23, 2026
5:00–7 p.m.
City Hall, Council Chambers, 401 N. Morton St. in Bloomington, Ind.
Zoom Option

Board of Park Commissioners

Commission Member	Appointed by	Appointment Date	Term
Israel Herrera	Mayor	1/1/2023	1/1/2023-12/31/2026
Kathleen Mills	Mayor	1/1/2024	1/1/2024-12/31/2027
Ellen Rodkey	Mayor	1/1/2022	1/1/2026-12/31/2029
Jim Whitlatch	Mayor	1/1/2025	1/1/2025-12/31/2028

CALL TO ORDER Kathleen Mills called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM

I. **ROLL CALL Present Kathleen Mills, Ellen Rodkey, Israel Herrera and Jim Whitlatch**
II. **Staff present Tim Street, Leslie Brinson, Rebecca Swift, Satoshi Kido, Haskell Smith, Hsiung Marler, Mark Sterner, Chris Hamric, Julie Ramey, bill ream, Mark Marotz and Alex Curry**

A. Consent Calendar

Agenda Item Number	Topic/Description	Presenter
A-1	Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2026 Regular Meeting	Kim Clapp
A-2	Approval of Claims Submitted February 19 2026 through March 22 2026	Kim Clapp
A-3	Approval of Non-Reverting Budget Amendments	Kim Clapp
A-4	Review of Business Reports	Kim Clapp
A-5	Review/Approval of Credit Card Refunds	Kim Clapp
A-6	Approval of Surplus	Kim Clapp
A-7	Partnership with Cicada Cinema for 2026 Movies in the Park	Crystal Ritter
A-8	Contract with Marshall Security for 2026 Farmers' Market Security	Clarence Boone

Agenda Item Number	Topic/Description	Presenter
A-9	BCFM 2026 Food and Beverage Artisan agreement template	Clarence Boone
A-10	Agreement with KingSnake Sound for 2026 Services	Crystal Ritter
A-11	Conflict of Interest form for Chris Ramsey for ESD contract with KingSnake Sound	Tim Street
A-12	Agreement with Summer Star Foundation for nature club	Heidi Shoemaker
A-13	Agreement with City Glass for window repair at 349 S Walnut	Mark Marotz
A-14	Agreement with Pathways (formerly MCUM) for Mills Pool usage	Chris Hamric
A-15	Agreement with DEEM for mechanical services	Chris Hamric
Board	Ellen made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Jim Whitlatch seconded and the motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.	Board

B. Public Hearings and Appearances

Agenda Item Number	Topic/Description	Presenter
B-1	Bravo Award – Isadore Torry	Emily Buuck

C. Other Business

Agenda Item Number	Topic/Description	Presenter
C-1	Staff recommended approval of a partnership agreement with Indiana University for the Granfalloon Concert Series at Switchyard Park. The Parks Department would manage and pay upfront costs for fencing, restrooms, and shade, with IU reimbursing expenses through the Non-Reverting Fund. The first year of the proposed four-year partnership, would feature three concerts. IU would handle event operations and commit $10,000 toward future park improvements. The series expanded park programming and supported local economic development. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the agreement with Indiana University for Grafallon concert Series. Jim Whitlatch seconded and the motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.	Leslie Brinson
C-2	Staff recommended approval of a $637,775 construction contract with Monroe, LLC, the lowest of five bidders, for the Powerline Trail project (funded by BICI Bond). The project included construction of a 0.9-mile multi-use trail, trailhead amenities, an ADA-accessible crossing on Rogers Street, and connections to RCA Community Park, along with related site preparation, drainage, and restoration work.	Rebecca Swift

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	Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the contract with Monroe, LLC for Powerline Trail project. Jim Whitlatch seconded, and the motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.	
C-3	Staff recommended approval of a $124,950 service agreement with Rundell Ernstberger Associates, Inc. (REA) for construction inspection services for the Powerline Trail project (funded by BICI Bond). REA would provide part-time inspection, compliance review, documentation, and project support services through completion, on an hourly not-to-exceed basis. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the contract with REA for construction inspections. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion passed unanimously by a 4-0 vote.	Rebecca Swift
C-4	Staff recommended approval of a land lease agreement with Verizon Wireless for a communications tower at the BPRD Operations Center (545 S Adams St), allowing up to five additional automatic five-year renewal terms. The amendment updated renewal options, maintained existing rent escalations, clarified notice and contact requirements, allowed electronic execution, and preserved all other terms of the original 2015 lease. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the Verizon Wireless lease agreement. Jim Whitlatch seconded and the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Rebecca Swift
C-5	Staff recommended approval of the 2026 Switchyard Park mowing contract with Green Dragon Lawncare, Inc. The contract covered approximately 17.2 acres (up from 15.6 acres) at a per-cycle rate of $60/acre, with 26–30 cycles per year, beginning in mid to late April. The total contract amount is not to exceed $33,025, funded by the Switchyard Park General Fund (2204-18-189006-53610). Green Dragon submitted the lowest of six quotes and has previously performed satisfactorily at Switchyard Park. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the contract with Green Dragon for moving services at Switchyard Park. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Hsiung Marler
C-6	Staff recommends approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Greystar Development and the Planning Department for “offsite” tree planting associated with the Fell Iron property. Due to site constraints, Greystar cannot meet UDO tree requirements on-site. The MOU allows up to 143 trees to be planted offsite, with 76 planted on-site and the remainder contributing to the	Haskell Smith

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	city's closed canopy within city limits, including some street trees within a quarter-mile radius. This project has previously appeared before the Board of Zoning Appeals and is scheduled for the Plan Commission on April 13. No funding is required. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the MOU with Greystar Development. Jim Whitlatched seconded and the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	
C-7	Staff recommended approval of the 2026 partnership agreement with Canopy Bloomington to continue the Tree Tenders Program. Funded through the ESD (2209-04-043000-53990) for up to $13,000, the program provided job training and environmental education for high school students and has supported care for over 600 trees in Switchyard Park, RCA, and Lower Cascades over the past four summers. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the partnership with Canopy Bloomington. Jim Whitlatch seconded and the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Haskell Smith
C-8	Staff recommended review and approval of the 2026 first Quarterly Tree Risk and Reporting document. The report outlined known tree risks, ongoing maintenance such as tree grate upkeep, and the current tree removal list. Managing over 24,000 trees citywide, Urban Forestry used the report to communicate ongoing work, progress, and priorities. This was the fifth edition, and future reports may be adjusted based on Board feedback. The complete report could be found in the March Park Board packet.	Haskell Smith
C-9	Staff recommended approval of a contract with Bluestone Tree LLC for Phase Two of the Storm Resilience Pruning Project, not to exceed $25,000, funded by a grant (2211-18-G24033-53990). Phase Two continues implementation of the Storm Response Plan, focusing on pruning along priority streets to reduce storm damage. Phase One has been completed, and Phase Two is expected to proceed more efficiently. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the contract with Bluestone for Phase Two of the Storm Resiience Pruning Project. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Haskell Smith
C-10	Staff recommended approval of the Adopt-A-Roundabout Program Sponsorship Agreement template. This program allows businesses and organizations to financially support maintenance and beautification of the City's four roundabouts in exchange for recognition signage. Parks	Julie Ramey

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	and Recreation and Public Works retain full control over design, plant selection, safety, and maintenance, while the agreement ensures clear expectations, consistency, and protection of City authority. Ellen Rodkey motined to approve the Adop-a-Roundabout template agreement. Jim Whitlatch seconded and the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	
C-11	Staff recommended approval of the 2026 Partnership Agreement with the Bloomington Pickleball Club (BPC). BPC will continue to have exclusive use of the RCA Park pickleball courts from 6:00–8:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, April through October, to support organized play, events, and tournaments. The 2026 agreement updates the court usage fee from $5.00 to $7.50 per court. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to approve the partnership with Bloomington Pickleball Club. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Mark Sterner
C-12	Staff requested Board approval of additional fee changes for the 2026 season. Following a preliminary review presented in November 2025, staff conducted further analysis and recommended additional adjustments to support the department's goal of financial sustainability. Areas included Operations, Recreation, TLSP, Frank Southern Center, and Aquatics. Full list of requested fee changes can be found in the March Park Board packet. Ellen made a motion to approve the requested fee changes. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Kim Clapp
C-13	Staff recommended approval of the updated policy for the Fee Waivers for the 2026 Aquatics season. The policy updates included expanding the fee waiver to adults legally classified as children for public benefit purposes, aligning pool fee waiver requirements with federal standards, and allowing one free adult supervisor to accompany qualifying participants. Ellen Rodkey motioned to approve the updates to Pool Fee Waiver Policy. Jim Whitlatch seconded the motion unanimously passed by a 4-0 vote.	Chris Hamric

D. Reports

Agenda Item Number	Topic/Description	Presenter
D-1	ERAC Annual Report summarized 2025 topics and initiatives. ERAC acted as advisory board in policy matters pertaining to city natural areas and/or facilities.	Rebecca Swift

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	Denise Gardener was not available to present the report, Rebecca Swift was available to answer any questions and stated the report would be brought back at a later date. The complete report could be found in the March Park Board packet.	
D-2	Frank Southern Ice Arena Risk and Operational Report covered the community impact, risks and future options of the 1966 ice arena that was named for Frank Southern who was instrumental in its creation and construction. Staff had been working on the report for better part of a year, and had investigated different avenues. The report could be found in the March Park Board packet. Kathleen Mills commented: it was an informational report only. No decision regarding Frank Southern Center would be made at the Board of Park Commissioners March meeting.	Chris Hamric

E. Public Comment: Kathleen Mills opened the floor to public comments. Public comments were received in support of keeping an irce rink in Bloomington, wheter it was to build a new facility or improve the existing rink.

F. Tim Street, Director gave a brief department update.

III. ADJOURNMENT – Kathleen Mills adjourned the meeting at 6:39 P.M.