Meeting Minutes

Meeting: Board of Park Commissioners

Date: October 15, 2026

Agenda

I. **Roll Call-** Kathleen Mills called the meeting to order at 5:03pm. Israel Herrera, Jim Whitlatch, Kathleeen Mills, Ellen Rodkey are present.

II. **Agenda**

A. Consent Calendar

1. Consent Calendar- Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the consent calendar. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

B. Public Hearings and Appearances

1. Staff Intro - Caitlin O'Reilly, O'Neill Fellow

a) Caitlin introduced herself to the board as the O'Neill fellow with the Urban Landscaping team.

C. Other Business

1. Resolution 26-04 - Honorary naming of Griffy Loop Trail
   Tim Street | Staff Report
   a) Tim Street, Director of Parks and Recreation presented the resolution to the board. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve resolution 26-04 Honorary naming of Griffy Loop Trail. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous. Tim Street, Ellen Rodkey, Jim Whitlatch and Kathleen Mills all discussed how impactful Les Coyne was to the parks department and how grateful they are for his past and continued service.
2. Tree Appeal for 920 S. Manor Road
   Haskell Smith | Staff Report
   Letter of Appeal (3rd Party Content)
   a) Hasket Smith, Urban Forester presented to the board the tree appeal letter and provided photos of the tree that the department needs to remove. Kathleen Mills expressed

that maybe there is a better tree that can be planted there instead of what is currently there. Haskell Smith Urban Forester stated that he offered to plant a multistem redbud along their residence to replace the tree. Ellen Rodkey made a motion to deny the Tree Appeal at 920 S. Manor Road. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

3. Approval of cemetery plot reclamations
   Amy Leyenbeck | Staff Report
   a) Amy Leyenbeck, Operations Manager recommended the approval of cemetery plot reclamations. A discussion was had about how the individuals were notified that the cemetery plots were being reclaimed. Since there is not an address on file for the owner of the plots, Taylor Brown, Legal Counsel stated that the process that was used for notifications is the court's process for service by publication. This involved two different newspaper notices and then the meeting tonight serves as an additional notice to the public. They have 30 days to reach out and claim the plot prior to opening it up to the public. There is currently a waitlist of individuals interested in purchasing a plot. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the notification and process of cemetery plot reclamations. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.
4. Amendment with REA for construction inspection services for the Powerline Trail
   Rebecca Swift | Staff Report
   a) Rebecca Swift, Operations and Development Division Director gave an update on the current project and what is left to complete the trail. The goal is to have the project wrapped up in November. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the amendment with REA for construction services. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.
5. Service Agreement with Hays Smart Mart for 2027 services
   Daren Eads | Staff Report
   a) Daren Eads, Twin Lakes Recreation Facilities Manager gave a recommendation to put in new vending machines at Twin Lakes Sports Complex. It will focus mostly on

stocking protein supplements for the gym users. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve agreement with Hays Smart Mart. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

6. Agreement with Deem for ice arena compressor repair
   Chris Hamric | Staff Report
   a) Satoshi Kido, Sports Division Director presented on behalf of Chris Hamric. Kido reported that the ice arena needed to repair a compressor and the service agreement is for Deem to complete the repair.Ellen Rodkey moved to approve service agreement with Deem. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.
7. Winter Farmers' Market Partnership
   Leslie Brinson | Staff Report
   a) Leslie Brinson, Recreation Division Director recommended a partnership agreement with the Bloomington Winters Farmers market for 3 Saturdays in November. The Winters Farmers Market will pay $300 to use Switchyard and some Farmers Market staff will help with day of activities. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the Winter Farmers Partnership. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.
8. Amendment with Convergint Technologies for Switchyard security camera repair
   Leslie Brinson | Staff Report
   a) Hsiung Marler, Recreation Facilities General Manager recommended an amendment with an existing contract with Convergint Technologies to fully repair security cameras at Switchyard park that have been damaged by natural environmental causes. The Board of Park Commissioners had many questions regarding how the surveillance footage was recorded and maintained and also where the location of the surveillance cameras are located. Jim Whitlatch emphasized the importance of having more cameras and a policy of how the cameras are reviewed and make sure they are routinely checked to ensure they are working properly. There was also a note of the new ordinance that was passed by the Bloomington City Council regarding flock cameras. Taylor Brown, Legal

Counsel stated he is going to review the new ordinance more and report back with a summary of the ordinance. If more needed to be discussed about where the security cameras are located and how they worked, Taylor suggested an executive meeting due to the safety and security of the parks. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the amendment with Convergint Technologies. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote approvals were Ellen Rodkey, Jim Whitlatch and Kathleen Mills. Israel Herrera abstained from his vote.

9. Approval of 2027 Price Schedule
   Molly Cockerham | Staff Report
   a) Molly Cockerham, Office Manager recommended the approval of the 2027 price schedule. Ellen Rodkey asked for a summary of what was discussed at the previous meeting. This included general increases across all areas of the parks department, in city and out of city residence fees and price comparisons between other cemetery, pools and golf courses and how they compare to other facilities. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the 2027 Price Schedule. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.
10. Bloomington Rail Trail Temporary Closure
    Rebecca Swift | Staff Report
    a) Rebecca Swift, Operations and Development Division Director recommended a temporary full trail closure of the Bloomington Rail Trail starting 10/20/26. This is necessary for a contractor to come in and remove several large log jams that were caused from a tornado in May 2025. Ellen Rodkey moved to approve the temporary closure of the Bloomington Rail Trail. Jim Whitlatch seconded. Roll call vote for approval was unanimous.

D. Reports

1. Indiana Community Parks Initiative Grant Update
Tim Street | Staff Report
   a) Tim Street, Parks and Recreating Director gave an update on the Lilly Grant Initiative. There is an initial $200,000

available for a planning grant. The plan is to use the Master Planning document as a springboard to continue planning and to continue efforts that are already underway on the best ways to use the possible grant funding to improve the parks and other facilities.

E. **Public Comment**
    1. No Public Comment
F. **Adjournment-** Meeting was adjourned by Kathleen Mills at 6:13pm

Board Membership

Pursuant to applicable law and policy, and in compliance with Indiana Code 5-14-9-6, the following details are provided regarding the officers serving on this committee:

Board 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
Jim Whitlatch	Mayor	1/1/2025	1/1/2025-12/31/2028
Ellen Rodkey	Mayor	1/1/2026	1/1/2026-12/31/2029

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