



CITY OF BLOOMINGTON
Parks and Recreation

**ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES ADVISORY COUNCIL
CITY OF BLOOMINGTON PARKS AND RECREATION
REGULAR MEETING**

Wednesday, October 14th, 2020
4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

ZOOM (virtual) Meeting
<https://bloomington.zoom.us/j/96109195287>
Meeting ID: 961 0919 5287

CALL TO ORDER

Laney called the meeting to order at 4:36 PM

ROLL CALL

Members present: Paula McDevitt, Dan Meyers, Leif Willey, David Parkhurst, Denise Gardener, Steve Cotter, Sarah Murray, Sue Sgambelluri, Joanna Sparks, Kathy Meyer, Melissa Laney

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 2020

Dan Myers moved approval of the August meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Appearances

A-1 Public Comment Period

No public comments.

C. New Business

C-2 Griffy Lake Aquatic Vegetation Management Update (LARE)

This presentation was moved up the meeting to accommodate the presenter.

This year, Bloomington Parks and Recreation received an \$11,600 grant for the management and treatment of Eurasian watermilfoil (EWM) and updating the Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan at Griffy Lake from the LARE Program. EWR treatments were done in 2009, but there was no treatment done between 2010-2015 due to lake dredging and lowering in 2010 which resulted in EWR not having to be treated. EWR treatment continued in 2016 to the present. The City of Bloomington and the DNR limited the use of herbicides to only those which contained the signal word of “caution” – Navigate Grangular 2, 4-D was used up until 2019 when the use of ProcellaCOR was approved for use by the DNR. Herbicide use was reduced by 99% by weight of ingredient as result of this switch. A spring invasive survey and summer tier 2/invasive survey was conducted in 2020. The spring survey showed a 61% reduction in the area of EWM from 2019. The summer survey had no EWM or other invasive visually observed or collected by point sampling. It is recommended that invasive surveys continue in the spring and summer, with EWM treatments in the spring. Additionally, improving shoreline stabilization and watershed improvements are recommended. The permit meeting for LARE will be done on 10/21, with the draft of the aquatic management plan due 11/15. The LARE grant application and permit

application must be submitted by 1/15/2021 and 2/01/2021, respectively. Grants will be awarded between February and March of 2021.

B. Old Business

B-1 Griffy Lake Loop Trail & Fishing Pier Projects

Currently work is being done to create a dam crossing that promotes hiker safety and integrity of the dam. Designs for the crossing are approximately 90% complete and have been submitted to the CBU for approval. A title search is being conducted on the parcel south of the bridge to determine ownership to figure out next steps. The telephone pole by the boathouse has been removed close to where the crossing will be to reach the pier. Parks and Recreation is collaborating with students of Professor Reynolds at IU to develop trail interpretation resources. Different materials are being looked into for use on the walkway and dam surface. The final loop is proposed to be 6 miles with a crossing at Headley Road – the question still remains if the road will have to be closed or remain open during construction.

B-2 Saturday Weed Wrangles (Invasive Plant Removal)

Due to the pandemic, there have been no weed wrangles. There is hope for a safe return to activities in March of 2021.

B-3 Miller-Showers Park Update

EcoLogic will be doing a turf burn in the next month to install a half-acre of native seed. Additionally, there is construction being done on the north end of the park related to the Motel 6 property project. A temporary pedestrian bypass is required during construction, however there is no room on the Motel 6 property. Consequently, Parks and Recreation was asked if there was interest in a walkway in the northern tip of the park being developed. What is to be a temporary walkway for the purpose of construction will be a permanent sidewalk in the Miller-Showers park. Two callery pear trees will be removed for this project.

C. New Business

C-1 Education Update

Lightning Heart Productions will be filming videos at Leonard Springs and Griffy Lake as an alternative to in-person Nature Day activities. These videos will be sent to students with activity packets (journals, pencils, station materials, craft supplies) and allow them to get outdoors without having to go to the parks. Limited outdoor nature programs are being done through November. The Griffy Lake master plan inventory of amphibians, birds, and reptiles conducted by West Inc. is being filmed for public consumption to explain why and how the inventory is done.

C-3 CHAP Program

White Buffalo is coordinating the hunt with over 50 participants during the last three weekends of November. Deer reduction zone status was requested from the DNR and approved, however

the announcement of this coincided with news regarding the start of the archery season. This has created some confusion among hunters who are under the impression that they may go to Griffy to hunt using archery equipment – the only hunting allowed at Griffy is during the CHAP hunt.

C-4 B-Town Parks & Trails on OuterSpatial Mobile App Pilot Launch

Content is continuing to be created for the XR apps. ERAC members are recommended to download the OuterSpatial to familiarize themselves with the resource. The apps are scheduled for a rollout on April 2, 2021. Meyers asked if the apps currently give users the ability to directly submit questions to Parks and Recreation. Cotter responded that users will be able to submit comments by using an embedded link to the city's existing uReport application

C-5 Integrated Pest Management Updates

IPM plan comments are being reviewed and are still open for submission. A final plan will be presented to the park board by January with a final review conducted in December.

C-6 December 2020 Meeting Agenda Items

The next meeting will be conducted virtually on Wednesday, December 9th.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 PM.