



Minutes
Bloomington Park District
Board of Commissioners Meeting – ANNUAL MEETING
June 16, 2025, 6:30 P.M.
Johnston Recreation Center

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board, visitors, and staff recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Call to Order/Roll Call

The Annual Meeting of the Bloomington Park District (BPD) Board of Commissioners was called to order by President Burke at 6:30 p.m. In attendance were Commissioners Bryen Travis, Jerry Marshall, Gerace Olson, Frank Saverino, and Andre Burke, and staff members Joe Potts, Jennifer Vale, Lonna Converso, Mesha Hadzic, Chris Tompkins, Mark Goode, and Jackie Tithof Steere.

Recognition of Visitors

The Board welcomed Bob Watt, Bloomington Parks Foundation volunteer, who was present to be recognized for his years of service to the Bloomington community (Item 7A). Because Bob is moving away from Bloomington, he is resigning from the BPF, but is grateful to have served and contributed, having particularly enjoyed working with Lonna Converso and Executive Director Potts. The Board thanked Bob for his good work and efforts on the Foundation over the last 10 years. Executive Director Potts expressed his pleasure in working with Bob, who brought another level of asking of donors – developing the corporate giving program and completing many other good deeds.

(Former Commissioner Buzz Puccio entered the meeting at 6:32 p.m.)

Former Commissioner Puccio shared Bob's history: the two of them were neighbors and Bob, an avid user of a nearby park – with good things to say about it, was asked to get involved in the Foundation. It was noted that Former Commissioner Puccio was responsible for attracting other interested candidates as well, many of them Board Members now. The Board spoke about the privilege of serving with Bob and the huge impact of the corporate package for years to come.

(Bob left the meeting at approximately 6:36 p.m.)

Consent Agenda

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to establish the Consent Agenda. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Burke, Olson, Travis, Marshall, Saverino
Nay: None
Absent: None

The following Consent Agenda items were considered by the Park District to be routine and were enacted in one motion with no separate discussion.

- A. Approval of Minutes - May 19, 2025
- B. Acceptance of Financial Reports - May 2025
- C. Approval of Directive to Pay - June 16, 2025

The Board approved the Consent Agenda of the June 16, 2025, meeting as presented. On voice vote the motion was approved 5-0.

New Business

Review of Draft Ordinance No. 2025-01: Budget and Appropriation for FY 25-26

The Board had no questions or concerns on its first review of Ordinance No. 2025-01: The Combined Budget and Appropriation Ordinance of the Bloomingdale Park District, DuPage County, Illinois, for its Fiscal Year June 1, 2025, Through May 31, 2026. Staff confirmed the majority of the appropriated amounts were kept at 20%, while a few were appropriated to 25%. The final version will be presented for approval at the July meeting; upon approval, the budget will be filed at the County.

Election of President and Vice President for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Former Commissioner Puccio thanked President Burke for stepping in when he stepped down from the role and Commissioner Marshall for taking over the position for President Burke. He reminded the Board that they steer the ship, and the staff ensures the ship does not run up on the rocks. Together, they have done and will continue to do a good job – with facilities second to none, top notch staff, positive feedback from parents, and a crown jewel at Springfield.

President Burke added that Commissioners all hold onto the wagon at different times and, historically, when something was needed, the Board got it done, whether through speaking, being a friendly face, etc., and he is proud of having done those things with this Board (and may run for another term). He expects the Board to function just as well under the leadership of Commissioner Marshall. Under President Burke's tenure since 2019, Executive Director Potts noted the District has received more than \$1,000,000 in grant funds (some of them matched for even more improvements), seen a food drive and the second Juneteenth celebration organized, completed a Comprehensive Master Plan, hosted several roundtable gatherings, and worked through an executive director transition and the COVID pandemic while continuing to retain staff and provide essential services to the public.

In addition, President Burke has ridden to the top of the Old Town Park tree and down via firetruck ladder, pass out lots of candy at events, met with the Mayor on our behalf, attended countless meetings, encouraged staff, advocated for the underdog, and made decisions based on facts. Commissioner Marshall acknowledged that President Burke did a great job during the pandemic and transition between executive directors and that he respects the decisions made and looks forward to continuing to work with him and the staff over the next couple years.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to name Commissioner Jerry Marshall President and Commissioner Frank Saverino Vice President of the Board for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Burke, Olson, Travis, Marshall, Saverino
Nay: None
Absent: None

Board Appointments for Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to approve the following Board appointments for Fiscal Year 2025-2026:

Legal Counsel: Ancel, Glink, Diamond, Bush, DiCianni & Krafthefer
Bank Depository: Bloomingdale Bank & Trust, a Wintrust Community Bank
Auditor: Seldon Fox
Executive Director: Joe Potts
FOIA Officers: Joe Potts and Jackie Tithof Steere
OMA Officers: Joe Potts and Jackie Tithof Steere
Secretary: Joe Potts
Assistant Secretary: Jackie Tithof Steere
Treasurer: Jennifer Vale
Assistant Treasurer: Gerace Olson
ADA Coordinator: Mark Goode

On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye: Burke, Marshall, Travis, Olson, Saverino
Nay: None
Absent: None

Other Items to be Brought Before the Board

Recognition of Bloomingdale Parks Foundation Volunteer Bob Watt

See Recognition of Visitors section above.

Staff Reports

Executive Director Potts provided updates on the Village of Roselle's stormwater project plans. The VOR has not yet received its American Rescue Plan Act funds – when it does, the BPD will be more involved in the project. Items to pay attention to include a mowable dry bottom or wet bottom area at the corner near Butera and if the VOR will pay for the upkeep of it and whether an open recreation space for sports is included. The next lease is approximately 20 years away.

Preferred dates and times for a ribbon cutting at Indian Lakes Park were discussed as was the time for the Buddy Bench dedication for retired staff member Sandy Vangundy. Preceding the July Board Meeting and following a shortened July Foundation meeting, the bench unveil will also feature a short program and recognition segment. The staff plans to have Sandy read to students at other bench dedications at school locations in the fall.

The Board conferred on positioning itself to receive legislative funding when and if it becomes available by continuing to build relationships with elected officials, showing them BPD parks, and maintaining shovel ready projects. Commissioners were reminded that the District has two copies of the "The Park District Code," which contain the rules by which the agency must live, for borrowing. Staff will also make available "Get on Board," another informative book for Board Members to read.

Executive Session

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Marshall, to not enter into Executive Session. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Saverino, Marshall, Travis, Olson, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Adjournment

Commissioner Marshall moved, seconded by Commissioner Olson, to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 5-0.

Aye:	Marshall, Olson, Travis, Saverino, Burke
Nay:	None
Absent:	None

Respectfully submitted,


Joe Potts
Board Secretary