



**Minutes**  
**Bloomington Park District Board of Commissioners Meeting**  
**September 8, 2025, 6:30 P.M.**  
**Johnston Recreation Center**

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

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

(Commissioner Gerace Olson notified the Board in advance of her absence.)

**Pledge of Allegiance**

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

**Recognition of Visitors**

The Board recognized the following visitors who were present to provide public input on the Open Space Lands Acquisition and Development Grant/Springfield Park project: Linda Auchincloss, a proponent of the proposed improvements whose home backs up to park, and Heather and Mick Rakauskas, who chose to purchase their home because it was near the park. Wight & Company's Patty King and Dan Kim were present to gather information on the proposed OSLAD/Springfield Park renovation project.

At this time, Item 6A was moved up on the agenda.

**New Business**

**Discussion to Gather Information on the Proposed Springfield Park OSLAD Renovation Project for the Bloomington Park District**

Patty King gave an overview of the project and the process of having residents in attendance choose what goes into the grant application. The Board explained the specifics of the OSLAD Grant and BPD budget constraints. Options presented included drainage improvements for soccer fields; additions of a new playground, sand volleyball court, two pickleball courts, larger shelter, fitness station area, and three more holes of disc golf; improving the fishing pier and stations to be ADA accessible; and enhancing the community garden.

Also discussed was the need for shade and benches around the playground, restrooms inside the park, and a turf-covered soccer field. In the end, top amenity votes went to shelters and fishing pier, followed by community garden and renovated playground. The Board thanked residents for coming and contributing to the grant proposal.

(Visitors left the meeting at 7:06 p.m.; Wight & Co. left the meeting at 7:09 p.m. At this point, the Board resumed the normal order of the agenda.)

### **Consent Agenda**

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to establish the Consent Agenda. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

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 – August 18, 2025
- B. Acceptance of Financial Reports – August 2025
- C. Approval of Directive to Pay – September 8, 2025

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Burke, to approve the Consent Agenda of the September 8, 2025, meeting as presented. On voice vote the motion was approved 4-0.

### **New Business, Continued**

Approval of Resolution No. 2025-04: OSLAD Matching Grant Application, Springfield Park  
The Board was pleased with the good direction given by the members of the public attending tonight's meeting.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to approve Resolution No. 2025-04: A Resolution of Authorization for OSLAD Grant Application – Matching Funds for Springfield Park Project. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

### Approval of Resolution No. 2025-05: Character Counts! Day Proclamation

As part of the Character Counts! Coalition, the Board considered the annual proclamation to confirm October 7, 2025, as CHARACTER COUNTS! Day in Bloomingdale; encourage citizens to support the community-wide initiative by living the six pillars of character; and congratulate winners of the 2025 American Youth Character Awards.

Commissioner Saverino moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis, to approve Resolution No. 2025-05: Character Counts! Proclamation. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

#### Approval of Intergovernmental Agreements With School District 13

The Board reviewed agreements between the BPD and SD13 that have been reviewed and updated as needed by staff and counsel at both districts.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Travis, to approve the intergovernmental agreements with SD13. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

#### Approval of Ordinance No. 2025-03: Update to Parks Usage Ordinance

Since the Board's initial review of this policy at the August Board Meeting, Attorney Derke Price has answered questions on its application to festivals. The phrase "other than rentals" has been added to the paragraph on assemblies and speech events to avoid confusion.

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to approve Ordinance No. 2025-03: An Ordinance Updating the Parks Usage Ordinance No. 2015-03 (Last Updated in Ordinance No. 2021-02) By Amending Those Sections Related to Assembly, Speech, Permits and Loitering. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

#### **Other Items to be Brought Before the Board**

##### Discussion of 2025 NRPA Conference

Lonna Converso, Mesha Hadzic, and Executive Director Joe Potts will be attending the National Recreation and Park Association Conference September 16-18, 2025, in Orlando, Fla. A highlight for the District is the staff's presentation on Canva usage – the same session presented at the IAPD/IPRA state conference in January – at the national level. Staff received a discount on registration fees for speaking.

#### **Staff Reports**

The Board complimented staff on earning a five-star rating at The Oasis and on a job well done at the Septemberfest parade. The Board was also grateful for Commissioner Saverino's contribution of a "flaming rocket" to the parade happenings. A discussion was held on exchanging services such as sports field and pool access with the Carol Stream Park District.

**Executive Session**

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to not enter into Executive Session. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

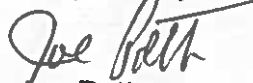
Aye: Burke, Saverino, Travis, Marshall  
Nay: None  
Absent: Olson

**Adjournment**

Commissioner Burke moved, seconded by Commissioner Saverino, to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. On roll call vote the motion was approved 4-0.

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

Respectfully submitted,

  
Joe Potts  
Board Secretary