

**Village of Downers Grove  
Community Events Commission  
Committee Room  
Downers Grove Village Hall  
April 13, 2017**

**PRESENT: Mr. Dave Humphreys, Mr. Mike Kubes, Ms. Andrea Knudsen, Mr. John Aguzino**

**STAFF: Ms. Mary Pratt, Ms. Marcia Schirdewahn, Mr. Dan Carlsen**

**ABSENT: Ms. Susan Carroll, Mr. Scott Jacaway, Ms. Linda Kunze**

**GUESTS: Lieutenant Dave Bormann, Downers Grove Police Department**

Mr. Humphreys called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. Mr. Humphreys announced that Ms. Schirdewahn is retiring and this would be her last CEC meeting. He thanked her on behalf of the Commission for her years of concise minutes and help at the July 4 parade. Ms. Pratt introduced Mr. Carlsen who has agreed to take the minutes at future meetings. Mr. Humphreys explained the role of the Community Events Commission for Mr. Carlsen's benefit.

**I. APPROVAL OF MARCH 9, 2017, MEETING MINUTES**

Ms. Knudsen moved to approve the minutes from the March 9, 2017, meeting. Mr. Kubes seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

**II. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**III. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

None

**IV. NEW BUSINESS**

None

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**A. July 4 Parade Logistics**

Ms. Pratt explained that most of the staging would be the same as last year. Sections 3, 4, and 5 will be staged in the Downers Grove North High School parking lot on Main Street. Section 2 will line up on Sherman, west of Main Street. Since there are more bands this year, Ms. Pratt is working with DGN to stage all the bands on the west side of the high school. They would then line up behind Section 2 on Sherman and join the parade as assigned.

Once again Highland Avenue will be one-way northbound for drivers to drop off participants staging in the DGN lot. Drivers will exit westbound on Sherman to Main. It was suggested a police car block eastbound Sherman at Main so drivers cannot enter Sherman from Main. This lane closure should occur as soon as participants start to arrive. There will be a hard close at Highland and Ogden. No parking signs will be posted on Highland between Grant and Sherman. The funeral home parking lot will be for TEMPORARY parking only. Some parents prefer to walk their children to a group leader.

It was suggested that in addition to the sheets that list the parade entries that a list of approximate street closure times be included. Mr. Humphreys suggested a flier which includes drop off, parking, and pick up information for band bus drivers would be helpful. Volunteers would have them in the staging areas.

Lieutenant Bormann said he will be at Main and Warren helping direct participants at the end of the parade. He suggested that bands, floats, and large groups exit to the east on Warren as there will be more room than in the

area to the west. DGN band can still exit west if they prefer. Other band buses will be parked on Warren, east of Washington. Ms. Pratt estimates that the parade will go till about 3 p.m. this year because there are more groups.

Ms. Pratt said more volunteers will be needed this year. Lieutenant Bormann said the Police Department now has 11 auxiliary officers. He will check schedules and let Ms. Pratt know how many will be available for the parade.

Mr. Aguzino asked if the volunteers have any kind of identification. Ms. Pratt said volunteers wear special t-shirts and she will get him one. She then asked who from the group would be available to help this year. Ms. Knudsen and Mr. Kubes said they would be able to help. Mr. Humphreys said he would be out of town. Ms. Pratt said she believes the Marinos, Patti and John will volunteer again.

Ms. Pratt said she has met with Communications Director Doug Kozlowski, and they have a planned a campaign that will begin in May. It will emphasize child safety at the parade and respect for property. Mr. Humphreys suggested that staging volunteers walk with their section and remind people to stay at curb. There was discussion of the logistics of those volunteers getting back to their cars.

Ms. Pratt stated that the group needs to think of ideas for the parade marshal. Everyone agreed getting someone from the Cubs would be awesome and suggestions were made as to people who might have a Cub connection. Ms. Pratt also mention that Linda Kunze had a name of a veteran who was part of World War II and who actively seeks to highlight Flag Day and thought he might be a candidate for parade marshal. Ms. Pratt will reach out to Ms. Kunze for more information.

## **VI. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Knudsen moved to adjourn; Mr. Kubes seconded. Motion passed unanimously at 6:07 p.m.