

Minutes of a Workshop Session of the Board of  
Park Commissioners of the Downers Grove Park  
District held on April 7, 2022 at the Recreation Center,  
4500 Belmont Road, Downers Grove, IL 60515

**Call to Order** Commissioner Mahoney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Commissioners Bender, Kotula, McDonnell, Mahoney, Executive Director, Bill McAdam; Director of Human Resources, Marian Olund; Director of Recreation, Dave Haring; Director of Finance & Technology, Erik Brown; Director of Parks & Planning, Geoff Penman; Director of Marketing and Community Engagement, Dawn Hartman; Superintendent of Planning, ADA Coordinator, Paul Fyle; IT Technician, Eric Robles; Community Athletics Supervisor, Anna Kish; Clerk, Adine Wrzesinski

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Dahlstrom  
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**Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**Changes to the Agenda:** None

**Visitors:** Affiliate Groups: DOLLS, Roadrunners & DGYB  
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**DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

**AFFILIATE NIGHT:**

**DOLLS:** President of In-house, Jon Harrison discussed that the D.O.L.L.S. organization was formed in 1969. There are 37 teams in-house ranging from kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. There is a travel program called Rebels and that has 13 teams ranging from 9u-16u. Jon also mentioned that the organization used Perfect Swing in Darien for indoor use. The D.O.L.L.S. have multiple sponsors and have Mary Connolly, a former pitcher from DePaul, offering hitting/pitching lessons to the girls. Jon thanked the Downers Grove Park District and mentioned that he loves the relationship the organization has with the Park District.

**Panthers:** No one from the Panthers could make it but Mike Burrows sent a written statement in for Dave Haring to read. He mentioned that the Panthers started in 1964 and is dedicated to giving back to the community. Panthers is one of 22 towns in the Bill George Youth Football league and was one of the original towns. The Panthers usually has 300-400 participants each year ranging from kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Mike thanked the Downers Grove Park District for all of the hard work each person does for this great community.

**Roadrunners:** Taylor Waspi and Lisa Forst from the Roadrunners organization discussed that the Roadrunners are a certified Players First Club. During COVID they continued training through Zoom sessions and had virtual tryouts. In 2021-2022, Roadrunners have over 230 new players. During 2019-2021 the Roadrunners helped provide over 600 gifts each holiday season to DG58 and DG99 children and collectively raised close to \$100,000 by holding the Grove Express 5K.

**DGYB:** Chris Dunn spoke on behalf of Jim Tremmel. He mentioned that DGYB has been around since the mid 50's. It was organized to be a little league organization and over the years added a pony league but that was dropped and then added a Babe Ruth league. DGYB plays through mid-July. In 2020 the fall ball program had around 450 participants. Last fall with other sports returning we were at 350 participants. We also have a travel team called Longshots, ages 9-18. We really appreciate the fields and the facilities. We have always gotten compliments on the condition of the fields.

Dave Haring introduced Anna Kish. He mentioned that Anna puts the puzzle together on scheduling all the fields and school fields. Anna thanked all the affiliates for taking time to come out and give the Board an update on what is going on with their organization.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Executive Director, Bill McAdam mentioned that the Park District has been approached by a Lacrosse team and have had ongoing conversations with the YMCA. Dave Haring was able to connect with the YMCA and made a connection there that the Lacrosse team can use their fields. They are not an affiliate but another group in the community doing Lacrosse.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** – None

Commissioner Mahoney announced that the next Park District Board meeting will be held April 21, 2022 at the Recreation Center, Multi-Purpose Room.

**ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION**

The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 7:44 p.m. following a motion made by Commissioner McDonnell and seconded by Commissioner Bender.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: Commissioners McDonnell, Bender, Kotula, Mahoney  
                                  Nays: None  
                                  Absent: Commissioner Dahlstrom

**FINAL ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. following a motion made by Commissioner McDonnell and seconded by Commissioner Bender.

Roll Call:                   Ayes: Commissioners McDonnell, Bender, Kotula, Mahoney  
                                  Nays: None  
                                  Absent: Commissioner Dahlstrom

*Robert Kotula*

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Robert E. Kotula, Secretary  
Downers Grove Park District