Minutes of a Park Tour Meeting of the Downers Grove Park District held on May 5, 2016 at the Administration Office, 2455 Warrenville Road, Downers Grove, Illinois

Call to Order
President Cushing called the meeting to order at 3:10 P.M. at the Administration Office.

Roll Call
PRESENT: Commissioners Matt Cushing, Bob Gelwicks, Frank Livorsi, Catherine C. Mahoney; and Tom Salaba, Executive Director Bill McAdam; Director of Operations and Development Geoff Penman, Assistant Director of Finance Erik Brown; Superintendent of Planning Paul Fyle; Superintendent of Parks Kevin Rozell. ABSENT: Director of Recreation Jay Kelly; Assistant Director of District Services Sara Rathsaek.

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Visitors
There were no visitors.

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PARK TOUR
The Board and staff toured Loy Park; Prince Pond; Ebersold Park; Washington Park; Doerhoefer Park; Northside Park

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Visitors
There were no visitors.

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ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION
The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 6:04 P.M. following a motion made by Commissioner Mahoney and Commissioner Livorsi seconded the motion. ROLL CALL: AYE: Commissioners Mahoney, Livorsi, Cushing, Gelwicks, Salaba. NAY: None. Motion Carried.

RECONVENE
The Board reconvened in public session at 6:09 p.m.

FINAL ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 6:09 p.m. Commissioner Gelwicks moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Livorsi seconded the motion. ROLL CALL AYE: Commissioners Gelwicks, Livorsi, Cushing, Mahoney, Salaba NAY: None. Motion Carried

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Salaba, Secretary
PARK TOUR

1. CONVENING THE MEETING
   1.1 Call to Order
   1.2 Roll Call
   1.3 Pledge of Allegiance
   1.4 Changes to the Agenda

2. COMMUNICATIONS
   2.1 Recognition of Visitors

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS
   3.1 Loy Park
   Prince Pond
   Ebersold Park
   Washington Park
   Doehrhofer Park
   Northside Park
   Possible Other Various Parks Could be Toured
   3.2 Miscellaneous

4. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

THE NEXT DOWNERS GROVE PARK DISTRICT PARK BOARD MEETING WILL BE HELD MAY 19th, 2016 AT THE VILLAGE COUNCIL CHAMBERS

5. ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION (If needed)
   5.1 The purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussion whether a particular parcel should be acquired, pursuant to 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5) of the Open Meetings Act
   5.2 The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee of the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine its validity, pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) of the Open Meetings Act

6. FINAL ADJOURNMENT
*Meet at the Administration Office, 2455 Warrenville Road at 3:00 p.m.
Transportation for the tour will be provided by Park District staff.

Parks
1. Loy Park
2. Prince Pond
3. Ebersold Park
4. Washington Park
5. Doehoefner Park
6. Northside Park

Parks Addresses:
1. Loy Park: 4943 Pershing Ave.
2. Prince Pond: 4906 Parkway Dr.
3. Ebersold Park: 630 Main St.
5. Doehoefner Park: 4101 Venard Rd.
LOY PARK

CLASSIFICATION: Mini-Park, 1.7-Acres (Leased from Village)

HOURS: Dawn to Dusk

ADDRESS/COORDINATES: 4943 Pershing Ave. / 41° 47' 45.43"N 88° 02' 07.03"W

BACKGROUND:

Located at the northeast corner of the Warren Ave and Pershing Ave intersection, this small neighborhood park contains a shady picnic grove adjacent to a playground. In addition to the play area, the eastern half of the park contains a small baseball/softball field for informal neighborhood pick-up games.

The park property is currently leased to the Park District from the Village of Downers Grove, and was originally named for the streets which boarder the property. In May of 1979, the park was renamed for Reed Loy, who served the Downers Grove Park District for 10 years and was a member of the Volunteer Fire Department. Reed was instrumental in much of the design and handiwork in the Downers Grove park system. Initially, this site was overgrown with trees and brush, but had been cleared shortly before the untimely death of Reed Loy. In conjunction with the cleanup, the Park District also added the playground, benches and baseball backstop.

ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES:

- Accessible Playground 2-5
  - Tot Enclosed Bucket Swings (2)
  - Open Seat Belt Swings (2)
- Picnic Tables (2)
- Trash Receptacle
- Drinking Fountain
- Benches (3)
- Baseball Backstop

NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

- Henry Puffer Elementary School

PARK TOUR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
- Existing Playground installed in 1998
- No Tot Play Equipment
- High visibility from train
- Drainage issues
- Memorial for Noah?

OBSERVATIONS/NOTES:

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks, and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.
PRINCE POND
(2.2 Acres)
PRINCE POND

CLASSIFICATION: Neighborhood Park, 2.2-Acres

HOURS: Dawn to Dusk

ADDRESS/COORDINATES: 4906 Parkway / 41° 47' 53.69"N 88° 00' 55.35"W

BACKGROUND:

Prince Pond, previously known as Grove Lake, was first constructed in 1892 as part of the E. H. Prince subdivision that surrounds it. In 1894, a season ticket for ice skating at the Grove Lake Skating Pond could be purchased for $1 for children 10 years and younger. By 1932, the pond had built up sediment to a point where it was becoming a swamp. Because of this, it was excavated and reshaped into its current form, and the shelter at the north end was constructed. In 1936, the same year as these renovations, Mr. Prince donated the pond and shelter to the Village of Downers Grove. It was later bought by the Park District in 1948, two years after the District’s inception. Because the pond was losing several feet of shoreline every year due to its freezing and thawing, the Park District later dredged the bottom again and added large boulders and stones around its perimeter in order to reduce erosion. In addition, play equipment, lighting, and walkways were also added as part of a renovation in the 1980’s.

Prince Pond is situated immediately south of Franklin Street between Linscott Avenue and Parkway Drive. The park is dominated by the picturesque charm of the small Prince Pond surrounded by mature trees and native landscaping. The area immediately north of the pond has a playground, a shelter, benches and picnic tables. In winter, the pond becomes a popular location for ice skating, and is used by neighborhood kids for informal hockey games.

ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES:

- Prince Pond
- Accessible Playground (ages 5-12)
  - Tot Enclosed Bucket Swings (2)
  - Open Seat Belt Swings (2)
- Ice Skating
- Fishing
- Shelter
- Walking Path
- Picnic Tables (2)
- Trash Receptacles (4)
- Drinking Fountain
- Benches (10)

NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

- Washington Park

PARK TOUR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- POND DREDGING
- ACCESSIBILITY CHALLENGES
- PLAYGROUND BORDER/BARRIER CURB
- RETAINING WALL REPLACEMENT

OBSERVATIONS/NOTES:

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks, and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.
EBERSOLD PARK
(18.9 Acres)
CLASSIFICATION: Neighborhood Park, 18.9-Acres

HOURS: Dawn to Dusk

ADDRESS/COORDINATES: 6030 Main St. / 41° 45' 41.87"N 88° 00' 31.95"W

BACKGROUND:

The land that is now Ebersold Park was once owned by Marguerite and Fred Ebersold, who would allow local children to use it as a sled hill during the winter months, and took great joy in watching children have fun enjoying the outdoors in the winter. After the Park District acquired the land, it was named in honor of the Ebersolds, and continues to serve as a popular sledding location, as it had for many years.

This important neighborhood park is located immediately southwest of the 59th and Main Street intersection. The park is comprised of two distinct areas surrounded by a 0.75-mile paved perimeter walking path that connects to the adjacent neighborhoods. The south half or "upper level" is dedicated to active recreation with a soccer field, play equipment with separate age 2-5 and age 5-12 play areas, a parking lot and a sledding hill. The "lower level" at the north end of the park is primarily comprised of an open field and a small wetland area with native plant communities.

ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES:

- Soccer Field
- Accessible Playground (ages 2-5 & 5-12)
  - Tot Enclosed Bucket Swings (2)
  - Open Seat Belt Swings (4)
- Sled Hill
- Walking Path (0.8 Miles)
- Steel Bridge
- Portable Restroom (2)
- Picnic Table (5)
- Trash Receptacle (3)
- Drinking Fountain
- Benches (6)
- Aluminum Bleachers (2)
- Soccer Goals (seasonal)
- Parking (90)
- Thor Guard Lightning Detection System

NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

- O'Neill Middle School
- Fairmount Elementary School
- Hillcrest Elementary School
- Downers Grove YMCA

PARK TOUR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

- Review parking lot condition
- Identify ADA corrections

OBSERVATIONS/NOTES:

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks, and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.
CLASSIFICATION: Neighborhood Park, 4.7-Acres

HOURS: Dawn to Dusk

ADDRESS/COORDINATES: 835 Prairie St. / 41° 47’ 58.91”N 88° 00’ 24.84”W

BACKGROUND:

This park is the former site of Washington School, which was the second oldest school in Downers Grove. The original school was built in 1891 and continued to educate Downers Grove residents until 1978 when it was closed. In 1987, the Park District acquired the property and utilized the building for recreation programming until it was demolished in 2003, when the new Recreation & Fitness Center opened. In 2008, the Park District entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Village of Downers Grove for the construction of storm water detention basins within the park. In exchange, the District received new park amenities, including a new playground, shelter, fountain and ball field seating. Construction was completed and the park reopened in late summer 2010.

Located on the corner of Washington and Prairie, this newly redesigned park offers some of the best views in the parks system. The new detention basins are surrounded by concrete retaining walls which double as seating for spectators. Newly added landscaping includes prairie grasses and flowers that enhance the beauty of the area. The play equipment and baseball field offer many activities for children and is a favorite spot for families. Two age appropriate play areas are on site which comply with ADA and CPSC guidelines. The new shelter is an ideal location for a picnic surrounded by a variety of different activities.

ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES:

- Softball Field
- Soccer Fields
- Accessible Playground (ages 2-5 & 5-12)
- Tot Enclosed Bucket Swings (2)
- Open Seat Belt Swings (4)
- Other Independent Features
- Portable Restroom
- Parking Lot (51 spaces + 3 HC)
- Entry Feature
- Shelter
- Soccer Goals
- Picnic Tables (4)
- Stadium Seats (64)
- Trash Receptacles (7)
- Water Fountain
- Drinking Fountains (2)
- Benches (21)
- Café tables (3)
- Bike Rack
- Irrigation
- Thor Guard Lightning Detection System

NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

- Hummer Park
- Downers Grove Village Hall

PARK TOUR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
- SOFTBALL FIELD OUTFIELD FENCING

OBSERVATIONS/NOTES:

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks, and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.
DOERHOEFER PARK

**CLASSIFICATION:** Community Park, 14.1-Acres

**HOURS:** Dawn to Dusk, Lighted Facilities 11:00pm

**ADDRESS/COORDINATES:** East Entrance: 1270 41st St. / 41° 47' 27.15"N 88° 00' 32.39"W

West Entrance: 4101 Venard Rd. / 41° 48' 45.27"N 88° 01' 06.35"W

**BACKGROUND:**

Since the 1960s, Doerhoefer Park has served as one of the Park District's flagship facilities for outdoor athletics. The District's Board of Park Commissioners dedicated the park in 1971 during the Park District's 25th anniversary celebration, and named the park for Edward J. Doerhoefer, a former Park Commissioner and Board President.

Doerhoefer Park offers visitors a variety of active recreation opportunities under lights, including baseball and softball fields; football, soccer and lacrosse on a synthetic turf field; and basketball, tennis and pickleball courts, all lighted for evening use until 11 pm. The park also features ADA-accessible playgrounds for tots and children aged 5-12, as well as seating areas, concession services and a .39 mile loop walking path.

Visitors looking to drive to the park have several parking options located on Venard Road or from Saratoga Avenue in the provided parking lots. Angled parking is also available along Venard Road near the ballfields.

**ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES:**

- Lighted Activities
  - Baseball Field (2)
  - Softball Field (1)
  - Football/Soccer/Lacrosse (1)
  - Basketball Court
  - Tennis Court (4)
  - Pickle Ball Court (2)
  - Accessible Playground (2-5 & 5-12)
    - Tot Enclosed Bucket Swings (4)
    - Open Seat Belt Swings (6)
    - Rocker Toys (2)
    - Restrooms
    - Concessions

- Parking (178)
- Drinking Fountain (2)
- Picnic Table (4)
- Trash Receptacles (6)
- Benches (23)
- Bike Rack (4)
- Batting Cages (2)
- Soccer Goals (2)
- Flag Pole
- Irrigation (2)
- Score Board (4)
- Aluminum Bleachers (8)
- Thor Guard Lightning Detection System

**NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST**

- Bell Aire Elementary School
- Highland Elementary School
- Pierce Downer Elementary School
- Herrick Middle School
- Downers Grove North High School

**PARK TOUR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**
- REVIEW SYNTHETIC TURF CONDITION
- DRAINAGE ISSUES

**OBSERVATIONS/NOTES:**

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks, and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.
CLASSIFICATION: Neighborhood Park, 5.7-Acres

HOURS: Dawn to Dusk

ADDRESS/COORDINATES: 3289 Venard Rd. / 41° 49' 38.06"N 88° 01' 15.86"W

BACKGROUND:
Northside Park was a land donation from the developer building the surrounding neighborhood. Initially the park development concept was to include playground equipment, basketball courts, exercise areas and landscaping. However, the residents of the neighborhood requested that the park simply remain open space with expanded landscaping. A committee was formed to create a compromise, and the resulting design included play equipment and landscaping only, excluding the other amenities.

Currently the park consists of approximately 5-acres of beautifully landscaped open space tucked behind several homes, and includes a playground, drinking fountain and picnic seating at the south end. In a few spots, the park extends from behind the residences out to the Village sidewalk. Primary access to the playground is located on the southwest side of the park from Venard Road.

ACTIVITIES AND AMENITIES:

° Accessible Playground (ages 5-12)
  ° Tot Enclosed Bucket Swings (2)
  ° Open Seat Belt Swings (2)
° Picnic Table
° Drinking Fountain
° Benches (2)

NEARBY PLACES OF INTEREST

° William F. Sherman Interpretive Center at Lyman Woods

PARK TOUR ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:
- Existing Playground installed in 1999
- Need for accessible route to existing fountain and playground
- Park signage

OBSERVATIONS/NOTES:

Enriching our community through natural area preservation and exceptional recreation, parks, and facilities that inspire memorable experiences.
STATE OF ILLINOIS  
COUNTY OF DUPAGE  

CERTIFICATE

I, Tom Salaba, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I am the Secretary in and for the Downers Grove Park District, DuPage County, Illinois; that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the Minutes from the __May 5, 2016__ Park Tour Meeting of the Board of Park Commissioners. Said Minutes were duly passed by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Downers Grove Park District at a regular meeting on the __19th__ day of __May__, 2016, and said Minutes are to become a part of the official record of said Park District.

DATED THIS __19th__ DAY OF __May__, 2016

[Signature]

Tom Salaba, Secretary  
Board of Commissioners  
Downers Grove Park District