

VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE
REPORT FOR THE VILLAGE COUNCIL WORKSHOP
JANUARY 9, 2007 AGENDA

SUBJECT:	TYPE:	SUBMITTED BY:
2007 Community Grants Program	Resolution Ordinance ✓ Motion Discussion Only	Judy Buttny Acting Director of Finance

SYNOPSIS

A motion is requested authorizing approval of the award of the following grants as recommended by the Community Grants Commission:

Name of Organization	Name of Event/Activity for 2006	2007 Recommended
Midwest Ballet Theatre	Production of Cinderella at Heritage Festival	\$4,400
Our Town Productions	Rip Van Winkle	\$4,500
Downers Grove Concert Association	Concert Series: Artists Showcase West	\$11,000
D.G.H.S. Mustang Band Boosters	Marching Mustang Music Bowl	\$5,000
D.G. Area American Assoc. of Women	Used Book Sale	\$2,000
Indian Boundary YMCA	Commit to be Fit 5K/10K Run/Walk	\$800
Indian Boundary YMCA	10th Annual Y-Games	\$900
New World Repertory Theater	Hamlet & Androcles and the Lion	\$5,500
The West Towns Chorus	2007 Christmas Show	\$3,489
Downers Grove Downtown Management	Hospitality Sunday/Santa Parade	\$3,000
Downers Grove Downtown Management	Fine Arts Festival	\$3,000
D.G. Friends of the Library	Storybook Parade	\$500
D.G. Rotary Club	Halloween Window Painting	\$1,500
D.G. Kiwanis Club	Easter Egg Hunt	\$600
Grove Players	2007 Spring Production Campaign	\$6,000
West Suburban Humane Society	Barkapalooza & Pet Expo & Walk	\$2,000
D.G. Junior Women's Club	Fourth of July Float	\$500
Squires of Downers Grove	Bob Nelson Jr. Golf Amateur Tournament	\$400
D.G. Choral Society	2007 Concert Season	\$12,000
Senior Suburban Orchestra	Downers Grove Programming for 2007	\$3,000
D.G. Historical Society	Cemetery Restoration	
Vox Caelestis	Holiday Concert	
TOTALS		\$70,089

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

The Five Year Plan and Goals for 2006-2011 identified *Vibrant Major Commercial Corridors* and the supporting objective of *Attracting Non-Residents to Downers Grove*.

FISCAL IMPACT

The FY07 General Fund budget included \$70,771 for Community Grants.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval on the January 16, 2007 consent agenda.

BACKGROUND

On December 21, 2004, Village Council passed an ordinance whereby, the amount of funds for the Downers Grove Community Grants Program shall be established on an annual basis through the normal budgeting process and shall equal eight percent (8%) of the Downers Grove Hotel Tax generated in the fiscal year preceding the budget year or \$48,000, which ever is greater. The amount budgeted shall be exclusive of any donations.

The Community Grants Commission develops criteria for use as guidelines in the preparation and review of grant requests. While the emphasis is on support for local community cultural arts events, applications are also submitted by other community-based organizations including civic, historical, and recreational groups. Grant applications were due November 1st for organizations holding events and/or activities between January 1, 2007 and December 31, 2007. On December 2, 2006, organizations that submitted a grant proposal to the November 1st grant deadline were invited to meet with the Grants Commission to discuss their application. On December 6, 2006 the Commission met and is recommending the dollar amounts as listed in the attached "Meeting Minutes Summary".

The Community Grants Commission voted to recommend approval to the Village Council for \$70,089 direct grant support and \$682 toward administrative expenses that include printing, advertising, and general office supplies.

It should be noted that in the meeting minutes for the Community Grants Commission, the Commission discussed that one of the applicants, Downers Grove Downtown Management, presented their application to support the Fine Arts Fair whereby, the Commission recommended awarding \$3,000. This recommendation was conditioned upon the Village no longer acting as a "sponsoring entity" for the Fine Arts Festival. As a part of the Village Council's approval of the FY07 budget, the Village determined it would not be a sponsor of the Fine Arts Festival, therefore, meeting the condition of the grant award to the Downtown Management Corporation.

ATTACHMENTS

Minutes of December 6, 2006 Community Grants Commission Meeting
Spreadsheet of Grant funding history

**Village of Downers Grove
Community Grants Commission
MEETING MINUTES SUMMARY
Ante Room, Village Hall
December 6, 2006**

I. CALL TO ORDER

David Humphreys called the Community Grants Commission Meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.
Members in attendance: Dave Humphreys, Kathy Nybo, Renata Allelujka, Dimis Wyman, Pat Winter and Amanda Snell student member.

Absent: Martin Tully

Staff: Susan Brassfield, Grants Coordinator and Cara Pavlicek, Village Manager

Visitors: None

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS

The Village Manager, Cara Pavlicek provided each of the members of the Grants Commission with a copy of the Village's Strategic Plan; a comprehensive document of where the community should go in the next 15 years. This document will evolve year after year. The section "Core Beliefs" is the guiding principle as to how we serve the public, it provides us a benchmark.

III. MINUTES OF COMMUNITY GRANTS COMMISSION

There being no additions or corrections the minutes were approved as read.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

GRANT APPLICATION RECOMMENDATIONS

The Community Grants Commission met on Saturday, December 2, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:10 p.m. in the Committee Room to hear presentations and have a question and answer session with 20 organizations that submitted grant applications. This venue provided an opportunity for the grantees to add any additional or new information that wasn't included in their application. The Commission welcomed its newest member, our youth member, Amanda Snell. Commissioner Tully provided Ms. Snell with a brief overview of the program. During the presentations, the Commission asked applicants to incorporate the 175th Anniversary logo into their program. Moreover, the Commission asked the Downers Grove Junior Women's Club to incorporate the theme into their Fourth of July float and that they should discuss this further with the Department of Tourism & Events. After the presentations, the Grants Commission engaged in a preliminary discussion. This year as in the past, there are more requests than we have money. 75 % of our money supports cultural events. This led to the discussion of what is a community grant and what should it fund? What is an event? Some events are family, sporting, or recreational and do not fall under the category of a cultural event. The Commission agreed that these events should be supported however, they should be covered some place else other than the Community Grants Program. One of the applicants, Downers Grove Downtown Management, presented their application to support the Fine Arts Fair whereby, the Commission considered awarding this organization \$3,000. Village Council needs to decide its level of participation for this event; be it running, partnering, or sponsoring the Fine Arts Festival. If the Village decides not to run this event, then the Grants Commission can argue for the Fine Arts Festival

grant application. The Downers Grove Junior Women's Club previously ran this event; however, since 2004 it has been run by the Village. The Grants Commission decided to leave the \$3,000 as recommended for the Fine Arts Festival. In the event the Village runs the Fine Arts Festival in 2007; these recommended dollars would then become available toward other grant requests. If additional funds become available such as the aforementioned \$3,000, the Grants Commission ranks the following grantees as recipients of these designated additional dollar amounts:

Our Town Productions: additional \$730 to match their grant request of \$5,230

Downers Grove Rotary: additional \$500 to match their grant request of \$2,000

Senior Suburban Orchestra: additional \$140 to match their grant request of \$3,140

West Suburban Humane Society: additional flat \$1,000

West Towns Chorus: the remainder or \$630

Should more dollars become available then the Grants Commission will reconvene.

The following grants are not in the order as discussed in the meeting; funding recommendations have been categorized by type of activity in order to present like items together.

Cultural activity:

A.A.U.W. Used Book Sale

\$2,000

Assist with the cost of storage, book transport and table rental for the 49th Annual Used Book Sale to be held on June 14, 15, and 16 at Henry Puffer School. More than 40,000 books on every topic have been donated for the sale. This unique cultural event attracts many visitors from several states.

D.G. Choral Society – 2007 Concert Season

\$12,000

Assist with the cost of marketing initiatives for Brahms *The German Requiem* of the Oratorio Series, the Artist Recital Series for programs held in Downers Grove, and the annual Children's Concert for the 2007 Concert Series. This project will bring new singers and audience members into Downers Grove from surrounding communities. Moreover, this project contributes to a positive image of the Village of Downers Grove by presenting high-quality performances of the great choral masterworks.

D.G. Concert Association – 2007 Concert Series

\$11,000

Assist with marketing expenses for its 2007 concert series: Artists Showcase West. The 2007 series will feature the following artists: Anton Kuerti and Jessye Wright. Live classical music performances of world renowned professionals enhance the image of the Village as an attractive and fulfilling place to live, visit, and conduct business. The purpose of this organization is to promote and encourage public interest in the performing arts and this is achieved by presenting to the public, at a reasonable cost, a program of professional artists of international stature.

D.G.S.H.S. Mustang Band Boosters – Marching Mustang Music Bowl

\$5,000

Assist with the cost of program printing and judges. The Marching Mustang Music Bowl is a marching band competition that will be hosted by Downers Grove South High School scheduled during fall of 2007. This event will bring approximately 15 high school marching bands from across

the state to participate in the competition. This event will create a musical festival atmosphere that will be welcoming to all factions of the community and will draw many out-of-town visitors.

Grove Players – 2007 Spring Production Campaign **\$6,000**

Assist with the cost of advertising and rental space for the 2007 Spring Production. The Grove Players perform live stage productions three to four times a year, and participate in community events including “Heritage Festival” and parades. Grove Players also provide actors for Village and Chamber of Commerce special events including “Midnight Madness” and the “Ice Festival.” All productions bring theatre-goers into the downtown area. This organization offers live theatre productions at a reasonable price to the residents of Downers Grove and the surrounding communities.

Midwest Ballet Theatre – Production of *Cinderella* at Heritage Festival **\$4,400**

Assist in the cost of hiring a professional dancer from Chicago’s Joffrey Ballet to play the role of the Prince in the production of *Cinderella*. Grant support will also assist in marketing and publicity costs. Three performances of *Cinderella* will be presented during Heritage Festival at the Tivoli Theatre. These performances have introduced the art of classical ballet to many children in our community and this organization is a vital part of the growing arts in the western suburbs.

New World Repertory Theatre – Hamlet & Androcles and the Lion **\$5,500**

Assist with marketing and publicity for the productions “Hamlet” by William Shakespeare and “Androcles and the Lion” a comedia del arte musical to be presented in March and April 2007 at the Masonic building on Curtiss. New World Repertory will present to the community contemporary and classic live theater for adults and shows performed by children. This project will provide the people of Downers Grove with a recreational, cultural, and artistic resource that will inspire community participation. New World Repertory will provide Downers Grove with low cost, high-quality live theater for adults, and offer creative opportunities for the children of the community. A theater will also bring people from the surrounding suburbs into downtown Downers Grove.

West Towns Chorus – 2007 Christmas Show **\$3,489**

Assist with rental and printing costs for the Christmas Show. Three Christmas shows are staged in one weekend at the Tivoli Theatre. These shows bring high quality, professional entertainment to downtown Downers Grove while at the same time using local talent such as the Downers Grove Methodist Church Bell Choir, Affinity String and Brass Ensemble, dancers from Midwest Ballet, and singers from DG Choral Society.

Our Town Productions – *Rip Van Winkle* **\$4,500**

Assist with production costs for *Rip Van Winkle* to be produced in conjunction with the 2007 Downers Grove Ice Sculpture Festival. Our Town Productions’ goals are to provide the community of Downers Grove with a professional performing arts company that reaches a multi-generational audience and to introduce new events to Downers Grove on a continual basis that serve not only the residents of Downers Grove but also attracts visitors to the community.

Senior Suburban Orchestra – Downers Grove Programming for 2007 \$3,000

Assist with sheet music rental/purchase and conductor fees for four concerts at Downers Grove residential retirement facilities during calendar year 2007. Funds are also being requested to help defray the cost of presenting two workshop/concerts in Downers Grove elementary schools. This organization has 40 members and operates out of Fairview Village. The orchestra is under the musical direction of a paid professional conductor to ensure quality support to those playing in the orchestra and quality performances to the communities served.

Downtown Management - Fine Arts Festival \$3,000

Assist with the cost of advertising, printing, and Village staff payroll expenses (police and public works). This year the festival will be held as a 2-day event on September 8-9, 2007. The festival will feature artists exhibiting a wide variety of fine art including oils, watercolors, drawings, sculpture, photography, woodworking, pottery, and jewelry.

Recreational activity:**D.G. Kiwanis Easter Egg Hunt \$600**

Assist with the cost of candy for the annual Easter Egg Hunt. The event will be held in Fishel Park, which will draw people to Downtown Downers Grove.

D.G. Rotary Club – Halloween Window Painting \$1,500

Assist with the cost of printing, supplies, and post-event window cleaning for the Halloween Window Painting Event. Since 1966, the Downers Grove Rotary Club has sponsored the Halloween Window Painting event. Over 800 children (K through 6th grade) participate in this event. In addition to providing a forum for family involvement and bringing families downtown, the Club requests voluntary contributions of canned food items which are given to F.I.S.H.

Squires of Downers Grove – Bob Nelson Jr. Golf Tournament \$400

Assist in the cost of green fees for the Bob Nelson Jr. Golf Tournament to be held on June 18, 2007 at the Downers Grove Park District Golf Course. The Squires have a players field of 96 participants between the ages of 10 to 16. The senior golfer does not teach the mechanics of golf rather, instruction is given in golf safety, golf etiquette, sportsmanship, course care, rules, and fair play. This event will attract local youth to play golf at the Downers Grove Park District Golf Course.

West Suburban Humane Society – “Barkapalooza” Pet Expo & Walk \$2,000

Assist in the cost of advertising for the 14th Annual Barkapalooza Pet Expo & Walk. The event will be held at Patriot Park on September 30, 2007 and starts with a blessing for the animals and then the Masters of Ceremony will kick off the Expo and lead the walkers. The objectives of this event are to make it more of a Downers Grove community event, and to have greater involvement of children and families.

YMCA – 10th Annual Y-Games \$900

Assist with the cost of advertising, brochures, and t-shirts for all participants. The event will take place September 22, 2007. The objective of this project is to provide a minimum of 70 youths ages 8-

17 the opportunity to showcase their skating and rock climbing skills. Y-Games deliver an energetic, fun-filled outlet for skaters and climbers alike, fulfilling the mission of the Grants Program to provide recreational, community-oriented activities for Village residents. There are limited competitions for teens in these particular sports and Y-Games provide an exciting competition judged by expert skaters.

YMCA – 5K/10K Run/Walk

\$800

Assist with the cost of advertising, brochures, t-shirts for all participants, trophies, and official race timing. The event will be held on Sunday, June 10, 2007. The race starts/ends at the Indian Boundary YMCA, winding through the Village of Downers Grove and introducing out-of-towners to the beauty of our Village. Last year's 5K/10K Challenge, drew nearly 180 runners/walkers. Participants have the option to run or walk, and this event is open to all age groups- from tots to seniors.

Parades:

**DG Downtown Management-
Hospitality Sunday Santa Parade**

\$3,000

Assist with the cost of advertising and entertainment for the 32nd annual Hospitality Sunday /Santa Parade, a one-day event held annually on the Sunday following Thanksgiving. The highlight of the day is the Santa Parade, which brings Santa and Mrs. Claus to town for the season. Children are invited to ride on the float with Santa and Mrs. Claus. This civic event is an opportunity for our community to come together in a celebration to begin the holiday season.

D.G. Friends of the Library – 8th Annual Storybook Character Parade

\$500

Assist with the cost of prizes and a marching band for the 8th Annual Storybook Character Parade that will be held to coincide with the Fine Arts Festival to be held September 8, 2007. The Storybook Character Parade is an activity to encourage children to read and then dress up as a book character and parade through a designated route.

D.G. Junior Woman's Club – 4th of July Parade Float

\$500

Assist with the cost of supplies in the construction of a float for the 4th of July parade. This organization hopes to make women of Downers Grove aware of their services and philanthropic donations which contribute to the quality of life in Downers Grove. The D.G. Junior Woman's Club agreed to incorporate the theme of the Village's 175th anniversary into their float.

The grant requests submitted totaled \$85,530; however, to stay within the grants budget of \$70,089 the Commission had to reduce funding requests. Staff recommended \$682 of budgeted grant dollars to be appropriated for administrative expenses.

David Humphreys read the list of organizations, their respective event, and the amount of funding suggested by the Commission. It was moved by Pat Winter and seconded by Kathy Nybo that the Community Grants Commission recommend the stated Grants for the year 2007 to the Village Council for approval. Furthermore, if the grant for the Fine Arts Festival is not to be funded from the Community Grants Program, it is recommended that the following grants be increased to these amounts:

Our Town Productions	\$5,230
Senior Suburban Orchestra	\$3,140
West Towns Chorus Christmas Concert	\$4,119
Downers Grove Rotary Halloween Window Painting	\$2,000
West Suburban Humane Society Barkapalooza	\$3,000

V. OLD BUSINESS

Discussion led to whether Village Council would support grants exceeding \$10,000. The Grants Commissions has always used the arbitrary amount of \$10,000 as a maximum amount which was at one time the maximum dollar amount the Village Manager could approve. The Village's current purchasing policy allows the Village Manager to approve purchases up to \$14,999.

The Grants Commission also discussed what should and should not be processed through the grants program. What remains unanswered is, should the Community Grants Commission make a recommendation to Council, or should Council recommend that there will be separate and distinct grant programs for Community Grants and Cultural Grants.

IV. ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn by Pat Winter and seconded by Dee Wyman. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM.

2007 COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM						
Name of Organization	Name of Event/Activity for 2006	2004-05 Council Approved	2005-06 Council Approved	2006 Council Approved	2007 Request	2007 Recommended
Midwest Ballet Theatre	Production of Cinderella at Heritage Festival	\$3,200	\$6,200	\$6,000	\$4,400	\$4,400
Our Town Productions	Rip Van Winkle	\$3,000	\$4,000		\$5,230	\$4,500
Downers Grove Concert Association	Concert Series: Artists Showcase West	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$4,000	\$11,000	\$11,000
D.G.H.S. Mustang Band Boosters	Marching Mustang Music Bowl	\$1,000	\$2,100	\$3,400	\$5,000	\$5,000
D.G. Area American Assoc. of Women	Used Book Sale	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$4,150	\$2,000
Indian Boundary YMCA	Commit to be Fit 5K/10K Run/Walk	\$900	\$900	\$800	\$1,571	\$800
Indian Boundary YMCA	10th Annual Y-Games	\$1,200	\$1,200	\$900	\$1,389	\$900
New World Repertory Theater	Hamlet & Androcles and the Lion	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$5,000	\$5,500	\$5,500
The West Towns Chorus	2007 Christmas Show	\$1,200	\$2,229	\$2,600	\$9,200	\$3,489
Downers Grove Downtown Management	Hospitality Sunday/Santa Parade	\$2,500	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000	\$3,000
Downers Grove Downtown Management	Fine Arts Festival				\$3,500	\$3,000
D.G. Friends of the Library	Storybook Parade	\$500	\$500	*0	\$500	\$500
D.G. Rotary Club	Halloween Window Painting	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$1,500
D.G. Kiwanis Club	Easter Egg Hunt	\$600	\$600		\$600	\$600
Grove Players	2007 Spring Production Campaign	\$3,000	\$4,100	\$5,000	\$6,000	\$6,000
West Suburban Humane Society	Barkapalooza & Pet Expo & Walk	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$2,000	\$5,950	\$2,000
D.G. Junior Women's Club	Fourth of July Float	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$1,000	\$500
Squires of Downers Grove	Bob Nelson Jr. Golf Amateur Tournament	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400	\$400
D.G. Choral Society	2007 Concert Season	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$6,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
Senior Suburban Orchestra	Downers Grove Programming for 2007	Didn't Apply for funding	\$2,000	Didn't apply for funding	\$3,140	\$3,000
D.G. Historical Society	Cemetery Restoration	\$3,840		Funded by Village account and not through Community Grants Program		
Vox Caelestis	Holiday Concert	\$1,400		\$504	Will not submit application; organization is uncertain of its future	
TOTALS		\$51,140	\$56,629	\$43,504	\$85,530	\$70,089

*0 =Grantee cancelled event; funds reallocated

Community Grants Budget for 2007

Council approved: \$682 for supplies
\$70,089 for Community Grants Grand
Total \$70,771