

Responses to Village Council Questions February 18, 2025

Mayor's Report - Resolution: Establishing a Joint Ad Hoc Committee of the Downers Grove Village Council and the Downers Grove Library Board of Trustees

1. *Please explain the Village Council Standing Committees. Who served on these committees? How were Council members appointed to the committees? What is the current status?*

From 2001 through about 2011, the Village operated with three Standing Committees including the Public Safety Committee, Public Services Committee and Finance & Administrative Committee. Per the Village Code, each committee consisted of two Village Council members, one of whom served as the committee Chair. The Village Code stated that the appointments to the committees including the designation of the Chair were made by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Village Council. The Standing Committees met on a regular basis until about 2007. The Public Safety Committee last met in 2011. In 2023 the [Village Code was amended to remove all references to these committees](#).

2. *Please explain the Community Grants Commission and the Community Events Commission. Did Village Council members serve on these commissions? If so, how were they appointed?*

The Community Events Commission is currently operating. It consists of seven members appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Village Council. Prior to 2016, pursuant to Village Code, a Village Council member served as the chair of the Commission in addition to the seven resident members. The chair was appointed by the Mayor, subject to Village Council confirmation. The role of the Community Events Commission changed significantly in 2010 when the Village stopped hosting the Heritage Festival. A preliminary review of Village records indicates that the Council member stopped serving as the chair in 2011. On November 22, 2016, [the Village Council amended the Village Code to remove the Council member position from the Commission](#) and to change the Commission's roles and responsibilities.

The Community Grants Commission operated prior to 2014. Pursuant to Village Code, the Commission consisted of six members plus a Village Council member serving as the chair. Pursuant to the Village Code, all members, including the chair, were appointed by the Mayor, subject to confirmation by the Village Council. On October 21, 2014, [the Village Council amended the Village Code to dissolve the Community Grants Commission](#).

3. *Have Village Council members served on ad hoc committees? If so, which committees? What were their roles?*

Yes. Two Village Council members served as Ex Officio members of the Ad Hoc Housing Committee in 2007. In their Ex Officio roles, these Council members participated in the Committee discussions but did not vote. Further, one Village Council member served on the Performing Arts Study Commission, established in 2003.

4. *How would a request from the Joint Ad Hoc Committee of the Downers Grove Village Council and the Downers Grove Library Board of Trustees to expend funds be processed and approved? Which entity would be responsible for paying for the expenses?*

Any request by the Joint Committee to expend funds would be presented by the members of the Committee to both the Village Council and Library Board of Trustees. Staff would seek Village Council approval of the expenditure of any Village funds. Village Council approval would be provided via a vote at a regular Village Council meeting. The Village Council and Library Board of Trustees would have to determine if and how the expenses would be shared.