

**KENDALL COUNTY
REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION**

*Kendall County Office Building
Rooms 209 & 210
111 W. Fox Street, Yorkville, Illinois*

Meeting Minutes of July 25, 2018

Chairman Ashton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Bill Ashton, Roger Bledsoe, Tom Casey, Larry Nelson, Ruben Rodriguez, John Shaw, Claire Wilson (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), and Budd Wormley

Members Absent: Angela Zubko

Staff Present: Matthew H. Asselmeier, Senior Planner, Jasmine Brown Watkins, Office Assistant

In the Audience: June Alice, Bob Alice, Mark Perle, Priscilla Gruber, Linda Wilkinson, David Koukol, Peter Pasteris, Megan Jensen, Pete Bielby, and Jerry Callahan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Bledsoe made a motion, seconded by Mr. Casey, to approve the agenda as presented. With a voice vote of all ayes, the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Nelson, to approve the June 27, 2018, Kendall County Regional Planning Commission meeting minutes as presented. With a voice of all ayes, the motion carried.

PETITIONS

Amended Petition 17-28- Kendall County Planning, Building and Zoning Committee

Mr. Asselmeier summarized the request.

At their meeting on July 9, 2018, the Kendall County Planning, Building and Zoning Committee reviewed the concerns expressed by the Kendall County Regional Planning Commission at their June meeting. The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee's responses are listed in bold after each concern.

1. The exemption for the Forest Preserve District and lands owned by the State of Illinois and used for parks should be removed. The public health, safety, and welfare issues that the proposal seeks to address are the same for publicly owned lands and privately owned lands. **The activities of the Forest Preserve District are exempt from zoning if the activity is a permissible use as defined by the Downstate Forest Preserve Act.**
2. The Commission would like the proposal divided into three (3) parts: shotgun, rifle, and pistol. The Commission believes that this division would resolve issues related to minimum lot size and distance to neighboring structures. In talking with PBZ Chairman Davidson, Staff believes that the resulting division would simply cause petitioners to request three (3) special use permits. **The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee concurred with PBZ Chairman Davidson that prospective gun ranges would seek multiple special use permits. The County can evaluate proposals on a case-by-case basis and place appropriate restrictions on special use permits.**
3. Commissioners were concerned regarding the removal of the five (5) acre minimum lot size

requirement; ranges would simply have to meet the setbacks of the zoning district. PBZ Chairman Davidson would like the setbacks to be determined on a case-by-case basis. **The consensus of the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee was that a property would need to be of sufficient size to comply with the setback, berming, and noise requirements contained in the proposal.**

4. Commissioners were concerned regarding the removal of the one thousand foot (1,000') buffer between ranges and churches, schools, and neighboring houses. PBZ Chairman Davidson would like the distances to be determined on a case-by-case basis. **The consensus of the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee was that proposals should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with the neighboring land uses taken into consideration when evaluating the individual application.**
5. Commissioners were concerned about the noise requirement. Unlike other noise regulations, the sixty-five (65) dBa requirement would be constant instead of lowering to fifty-five (55) dBa at 10:00 p.m. PBZ Chairman Davidson would like the noise regulations to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. **The consensus of the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee was that proposals should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis with the neighboring land uses taken into consideration when evaluating the individual application.**

There were no changes to the proposal.

Ms. Wilson looked into the downstate Downstate Forest Preserve Act and could not find exemptions that pertained to the special use permit applied to the Kendall County Forest Preserve. There are permits that can be granted to outside users.

Mr. Nelson stated that the decision of the County Board on this matter is not based on law. He questioned why the language should be put in if the Kendall County Forest Preserve is exempted. If the regulations are already in the law, there is no reason to put it in the ordinance.

Ms. Wilson questioned where the source of the proposal originated. Mr. Asselmeier noted the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee made the final call for what was put in the proposal.

Mr. Nelson understood looking at petitions on a case-by-case basis, but did feel that greater direction was needed.

Ms. Wilson questioned what reason for the minimum of five (5) acre lot size. Mr. Asselmeier noted it was set at that requirement back in 2015. The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee wanted the dimensions to be based on the setbacks, berming requirements and type of firearm. All the other setbacks would have to be met, even if the five (5) acre requirement is not obtained.

Mr. Shaw questioned the noise requirement and if shooting can last all night. Chairman Ashton responded that it depends on a case-by-case basis and that shooting could occur all night under the proposal. Chairman Ashton noted the Sheriff Department's range was approved years ago and the proposal does not apply to that range.

Discussion occurred regarding the Sheriff Department's range. Mr. Davidson responds that the special use allows lights. Chairman Ashton noted the special use permit did not allow lights. However, the special use permit should include lights if someone wants to put up lights. Mr. Nelson noted, if someone has a special use permit with no restrictions on hours of operation, it is reasonable for the individual to put up lights. Mr. Asselmeier noted the time for the range was 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. and that lighting shall meet the standards of the zoning order. Ms. Wilson agreed with Mr. Shaw. She stated she lives next to a shooting range and would not be okay with it going on after 10 p.m. She also advocated for a lower decimal level because noise can be disruptive and dangerous to the public.

Chairman Ashton stated the Board has already sent the proposal back in without their recommendation.

Mark Perle, Old Ridge Road, expressed disappointment that none of the points were really discussed at the July 9th meeting. There was no input taken from the citizens groups. He did not believe the general public will be receptive. The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee referred to David Lombardo as their expert. Mr. Nelson stated the Commission was an advisory board and provided all the information but the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee took a different approach.

Priscilla Gruber, Old Ridge Road, believed that the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee wanted to decide petitions on a case-by-case basis and she objected to that idea. She argued that the public has no guidelines and no one can plan or know what the neighborhood will be like. She argued that too much discretion lay with the people in office at that time, but County Board members change. She did not want to see the county adopt the policy. Mr. Nelson responded that Ms. Gruber should go to the County Board meeting. Ms. Wilson suggested that Ms. Gruber research the Downstate Forest Preserve Act.

Linda Wilkinson, Old Ridge Road, believed the County Board should take measures to enhance the quality of the residents. She argued that property values will decrease next to gun ranges. In her case, her property would be unsellable. She requested a negative recommendation.

Mr. Nelson made a motion to pass the proposal with no recommendation to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Ms. Wilson requested to amend Mr. Nelson's motion to stand by their original recommendation but does not second the motion. Mr. Bledsoe called to amend the motion to remove the case-by-case basis statement because of public opposition. Mr. Nelson did not amend his original motion and nobody seconded the motion. The motion died for lack of a second.

Ms. Wilson, second by Mr. Wormley made a motion to recommend approval of the proposal as presented.

Yes- (0)

No- Ashton, Bledsoe, Casey, Nelson, Rodriguez, Shaw, Wilson and Wormley (8)

Absent- Zubko (1)

The motion failed and will be recorded as a negative recommendation. This proposal will go to the Zoning Board of Appeals on August 27, 2018. Mr. Nelson asked why the proposal was not going to the July 30, 2018, Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Mr. Asselmeier responded that, due to newspaper deadlines and uncertainty of the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee's response to the Commission's concerns, the proposal did not appear on the July Zoning Board of Appeals agenda.

Ms. Wilson referenced Priscilla Gruber's concerns as her reason for voting against the proposal. She believed that the proposal does not provide enough substance for making recommendations. Chairman Ashton did not believe that the issue of shooting sports was addressed. Also, if petitions will be looked at on a case-by-case basis, the Regional Planning Commission does not have any guidance to provide recommendations. Mr. Nelson believed the proposal will create unclear guidelines for the landowner and person applying for use.

Amended Petition-18-07 Kendall County Planning, Building and Zoning Committee

Mr. Asselmeier summarized the request.

Based on the comments received at the May and June Planning, Building and Zoning Committee meeting, Staff revised the proposal for renewing, amending, and revoking special use permits. At the June meeting of the

Planning, Building and Zoning Committee, the Committee voted to send the proposal back to the Kendall County Regional Planning Commission.

In the proposal, Staff removed the distinction between special use permit holders in violation of the conditions of their special use permit and special use permit holders not in violation of the conditions of their special use permit. Any special use permit requiring renewal would be required to follow the same procedure of renewal, amendment, or revocation. In the proposal, the County Board could initiate amendments to or revocations of special use permits requiring renewal by majority vote of the County Board and for any reason.

For clarification purposes, Staff also proposed changes to Section 13.08.F to address revocation of special use permits that do not have renewal or review procedures stated in their adoption ordinance. Staff proposed removing the establishment and use time requirements currently in the ordinance and allow the County Board to revoke a special use permit by a majority vote of the County Board for any reason.

Also for clarification purposes, Staff proposed changes to Section 13.08.M to address amendments to special use permits that do not have renewal or review procedures stated in their adoption ordinance. Under the proposal, the County Board could initiate amendments by a majority vote for any reason. The amendment procedure followed the same procedure as amendments to special use permits that possess renewal or review provisions.

Staff informed the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee, at both the May and June meetings, of the concerns of the Kendall County Regional Planning Commission. In particular, Staff noted that the Kendall County Regional Planning Commission believed that amendments and revocations should only occur after a special use permit holder had been found guilty in court and such revocations and amendments should occur by super-majority votes of the County Board. The Kendall County Regional Planning Commission also expressed concerns about the investments that special use permit holders made in their property and business that could be lost if a special use permit was revoked. The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee was also informed of the Kendall County Regional Planning Commission's concerns about holding property and special use permit holders accountable for violations of previous property and/or special use permit holders. The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee did not share the concerns of the Kendall Regional Planning Commission on these matters and they (the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee) believe the County Board should have the ability to amend and/or revoke special use permits as outlined in the proposal.

Mr. Bledsoe requested elaboration on Section 13.08R. Mr. Asselmeier responded that all existing special uses will be grandfathered. Any owner who wants to waive their grandfather rights may waive their rights using the provision contained in the proposal.

Mr. Nelson did not believe anyone who has a special use permit will be able to obtain any financial assistance from banks because the special use permit can be revoked at any point in time. The only recourse would be that people would go to court.

Ms. Wilson could not understand why the County Board would pass the ordinance. Mr. Nelson responded that the County would loss and it will negatively affect applicants by taking matters to court.

Ms. Wilson questioned County's motivation behind the special use revoking powers. She believed the County was trying to bankrupt people. Chairman Ashton believed the proposal is about power. Ms. Wilson stated the County has become unfriendly and Mr. Nelson believed the county is putting the new people at a disadvantage. Chairman Ashton did not understand the justification behind the special use permit revoke because most owners

were not abusing their permits. Mr. Asselmeier stated that there are approximately two hundred seventeen (217) special uses permits and only one (1) or two (2) caused problems.

Mr. Bledsoe questioned the use of the provision and believed the proposal will turn businesses away from the County.

Mr. Nelson hoped the United City of Yorkville will adopt the same ordinance regarding special use permits for solar fields. Mr. Asselmeier responded that the Yorkville solar panel ordinance requires renewal every two (2) years.

Mr. Davidson responded that the biggest concern is the campground on Van Emmon. Chairman Ashton questioned what the proposal will do for that campground. Mr. Davidson acknowledged that nothing will be done. Mr. Davidson did not approve of a simple majority vote. He agreed with Mr. Nelson that the court system will get involve and side with the owners. Mr. Nelson stated that the proposal is an example of bad governance because four (4) people can take away someone's zoning.

Dan Koukol, Oswego Township, argued that over sixty (60) people were employed via the special use permit within the County. He agreed with Mr. Nelson that the owners and users of the permits are builders of the County and patronize the local businesses. There are more positive versus negatives. The County has a solid waste plan that is updated every five (5) years and a Comprehensive Plan that is updated periodically. Special uses have been held by many families and businesses have grown up around the special use permits. The letter sent out was scary. He questioned when the last time the County Board had ten (10) members at the meeting. He believed it would easy for the county to revoke a special use if someone has a disagreement with someone on the County Board. Banks will not want to work with owners with the new special use permits because special use permits could be easily revoked. Ms. Wilson responded that the proposal will not apply to the grandfathered in special use permits. Chairman Ashton acknowledged that, after the permit is renewed, the proposal will apply.

Jerry Callahan, attorney for Green Organics, stated that he does not believe the grandfathering provisions are explicit. He discussed the Doctrine of Vested Rights and regulatory takings. He believed that the proposal was creating a problem with no standards regarding special use permits revocation. Mr. Asselmeier acknowledged that Green Organics is one (1) of the few special use permits that requires periodic renewal.

Pete Pasteris, Johnson Road, decided to use property for weddings venues as a way to save his farm. He acknowledged that he has followed the regulations in his special use permit. He has employed people on his farm and worked with local businesses. If the proposal is adopted, more people will leave the county. He expressed concerns that minor changes to his operations will cause a waiver of grandfathering. Mr. Nelson suggests Mr. Pasteris should attend the meeting on Monday, July 30, 2018.

Megan Jensen, Caton Farm Road said that she obtained her special use permit almost two (2) years ago. She understood the proposal does not affect them right now, but any changes they make to their property could cause them to lose grandfathering. She did not agree that a person's zoning should be revoked and they are trying to adhere to the law.

Mr. Davidson acknowledged Ms. Jensen's concerns and invited the audience to attend the County Board meeting. Advance signup for the County Board meeting is not necessary.

Mr. Nelson acknowledged that the proposal will go to the Zoning Board of Appeals on July 30th. Mr. Asselmeier agreed with Mr. Nelson and added that the proposal also has to be reviewed by townships and the townships are given thirty (30) days to file any objections. The proposal will go back to the Planning, Building

and Zoning Committee on September 10, 2018. If a township with a planning commission files a formal objection, eight (8) votes instead of six (6) votes are required for adoption at the County Board.

Pete Bielby, Fox River Drive stated that he recently was approved for a special use permit. He stated that the process for him went smoothly. He acknowledged that his special use permit follows his ownership and not his property. If Mr. Bielby applied before the ordinance is adopted, then he would follow the regulations in place at the time of application.

Mr. Nelson asked the audience if anyone at the meeting favored the ordinance. No one acknowledged.

Ms. Wilson, seconded by Mr. Bledsoe, made a motions to approve petition the petition as presented.

Yes- (0)

No- Ashton, Bledsoe, Casey, Nelson, Rodriguez, Shaw, Wilson and Wormley (8)

Absent- Zubko (1)

The motion failed and will be recorded as a negative recommendation. This proposal will go to the Zoning Board of Appeals on July 30, 2018.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD/ PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

REVIEW OF PETITIONS THAT WENT TO COUNTY BOARD

Mr. Asselmeier stated that Petition 18-14 regarding the Saar Map Amendment on Route 71 passed at the County Board.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Asselmeier announced three (3) petitions will be on the agenda in August:

1. Amendment to special use permit on Ashe Road; the petitioner requests to increase the amount of horses from twenty-four (24) to thirty-six (36).
2. Request for a special use permit for a banquet facility on Hughes Road and related variances.
3. Request for map amendment to rezone the Kovacevich property on U.S. 52 from A-1 to R-1 for a subdivision.

The next meeting of the Kendall County Regional Planning Commission is August 22, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

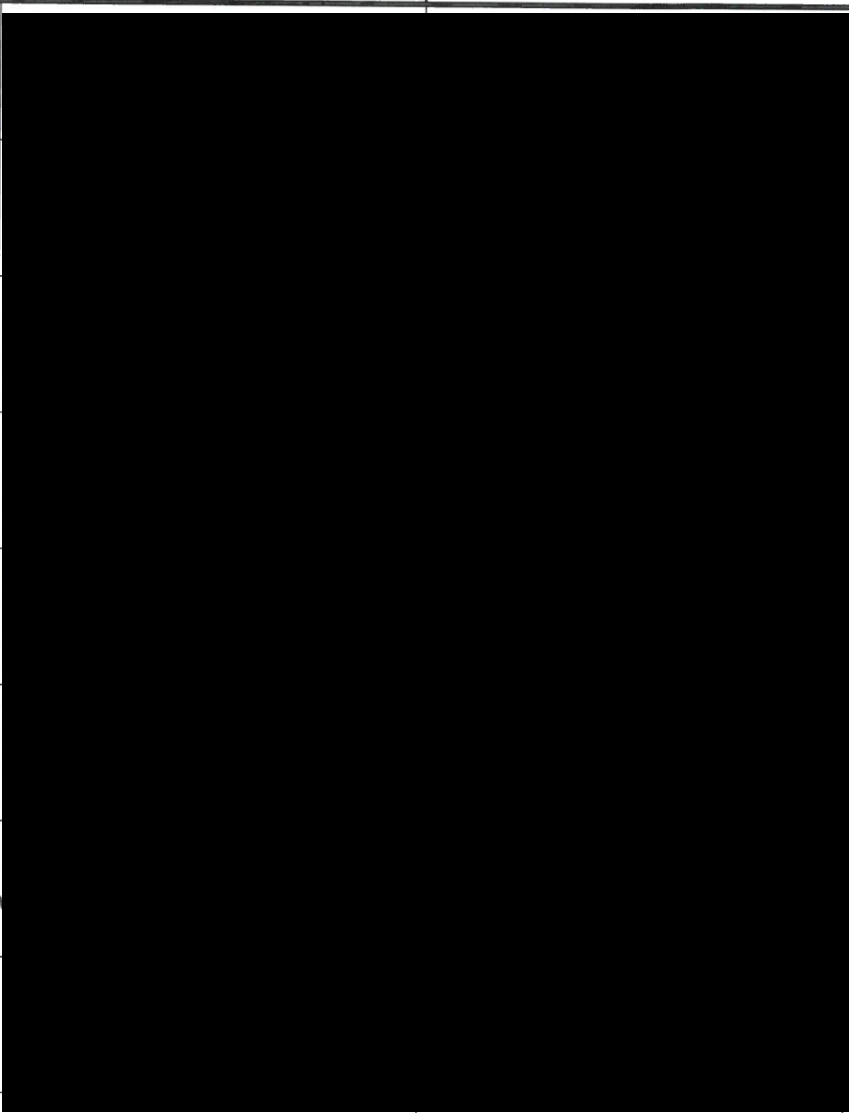
Mr. Shaw made a motion, seconded by Mr. Casey, to adjourn. With a voice vote of all ayes, the motion passed unanimously. The Kendall County Regional Plan Commission meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Matthew H. Asselmeier, AICP
Senior Planner

Enc.

8/18

KENDALL COUNTY REGIONAL
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 25, 2018

NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS
JUNE & BOB ALICE		
Mark Parke		
Aniseille Gruber		
Linda Wilkinson		
DAN Koukd		
Pete Kishen		
megan Jensen		
Pete Bilby		
Jerry Callahan		