

**KENDALL COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT
COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES**

MAY 17, 2016

I. Call to Order

President Wehrli called the meeting to order at 9:00 am in the Kendall County Board Room.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Invocation

Commissioner Prochaska offered an invocation for the meeting.

IV. Roll Call

Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Prochaska, Purcell, Shaw, and Wehrli all were present.

V. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder. Aye, all. Opposed, none.

VI. Citizens to Be Heard

Todd Milliron of Yorkville, Illinois offered public comment a recent "This Place Matters" photo event that took place at the Shuh-Shuh Gah canoe launch supporting the restoration of Millbrook Bridge. Mr. Milliron also offered public comment on the potential donation of property within the Cotswold Fen subdivision, requesting that Commission provide additional information on the potential donation including the District's intended use of the property in order to help inform the residents' decision on whether or not to exclude the parcel from Planned Unit Development covenants. Mr. Milliron reported that an email had been sent to Board of Commissioners on May 10, 2016 posing several questions on the potential acquisition. Mr. Milliron expressed concerns about the loss of tax revenues should the property be removed from the tax rolls. Mr. Milliron also recounted outcomes from land acquisition deliberations concerning the Yorkville Estates property. Mr. Milliron also inquired into whether there were any District plans to acquire this property. Mr. Milliron also inquired into voting procedures for the planned unit development residential owners, observing that releasing covenants of the parcel requires a 75% approval.

Louise Cernekee of Yorkville, Illinois offered public comment on the potential donation of property within the Cotswold Fen subdivision, requesting that Commission provide additional information on the potential donation including the District's intended use of the property in order to help inform the residents' decision on whether or not to exclude the parcel from Planned Unit Development covenants. Louise Cernekee presented several questions posed in an email to Attorney Lisa Coffee, and requested responses to her questions prior to voting on whether or not to approve a release of the lot from the PUD covenants. Louise Cernekee expressed concerns about property development, and any public access to the property.

Director Guritz reported that he did receive the questions posed. A draft response has been prepared for Commission review and comment prior to sending this out to the residents.

Commission discussed the potential donation, reaching consensus to further examine the questions posed during the Committee of the Whole meeting in June.

VII. Approval of Claims in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$14,735.91.

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve claims in an amount not-to-exceed \$14,735.91. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Purcell, Prochaska, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

- a. Kendall County Forest Preserve Commission Meeting – May 3, 2016
- b. Forest Preserve Finance Committee Meeting – May 11, 2016
- c. Committee of the Whole Meeting – May 11, 2016

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the Forest Preserve Commission meeting held on May 3, 2016; the Finance Committee meeting held on May 11, 2016, and the Committee of the Whole Meeting held on May 11, 2016. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder. All, aye. Opposed, none. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Motion to Approve a Proposal from Scott Kobal for Completion of a Floristic Quality Inventory (FQI) of Maramech Forest Preserve in the Amount of \$1,500.00.

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve a proposal from Scott Kobal to complete a floristic quality inventory of Maramech Forest Preserve in the amount of \$1,500.00. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Commissioner Purcell inquired into whether the expense would be applied to the operations or capital fund.

Director Guritz responded that the expense would be coded to the capital fund as part of the District's matching funds to the ComEd Green Region grant.

Commissioner Flowers inquired into whether any additional funding would be expended on this project. Director Guritz reported that one final proposal will be forthcoming to address common reed (Phragmites) at Tucker-Millington Fen.

Commissioner Gilmour requested an explanation of the purpose of the floristic quality study. Director Guritz stated that this is a repeat study with three goals. The first goal is to assess whether there have been significant impacts to the number of different species within the plant communities at Maramech. The second goal is to identify significant threats from non-native exotic species to the preserve. The third goal is to identify potential candidate species to enhance plant species diversity as part of the development of an overall management plan. Director Guritz also stated that the study will serve to identify plants of concern, a monitoring program conducted in partnership with the Chicago Botanic Garden to identify and protect State threatened and endangered plant species.

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Flowers, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Purcell, Prochaska, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, Commissioner Davidson. Motion carried by a vote of 9 to 1.

X. Motion to Approve the Proposed Fee Schedule for the Summer 2016 Public Program Offerings

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve the proposed fee schedule for the summer 2016 public program offerings as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Purcell, Prochaska, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none.

XI. Executive Session

Commissioner Purcell made a motion to enter into executive session under 2(c)1 of the Open Meetings Act to discuss 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. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Roll call: Commissioners Cullick, Davidson, Flowers, Gilmour, Gryder, Koukol, Purcell, Prochaska, Shaw, and Wehrli, aye. Opposed, none.

Executive session called to order at 9:22 am.

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to adjourn from executive session. Seconded by Commissioner Prochaska. Aye, all. Opposed, none.

Regular meeting reconvened at 9:25 am.

XII. Other Items of Business

Commissioner Davidson requested confirmation that discussion of the Cotswold Fen donation will take place during the Committee of the Whole meeting on June 15, 2016.

President Wehrli stated that the discussion would be continued at this meeting.

Commissioner Purcell observed that discussion at the meeting centered on protection of fen areas, and requested clarification on the rarity of this ecotype. Director Guritz stated that fens are one of the rarest community types in northeastern Illinois, limited to a couple hundred acres within the Chicago Wilderness area.

XIII. Citizens to Be Heard

Todd Milliron of Yorkville stated that the Cotswold Fen area serves as the headwaters of the middle fork of the Aux Sable Creek, with part of the lake draining to the Fox River.

Commissioner Shaw added that the name sake for High Point Road is taken from the fact that it is located on Kendall County's terminal moraine.

XIV. Adjournment

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Koukol. Aye, all. Opposed, none. Meeting adjourned at 9:38 am.

Respectfully submitted,

David Guritz
Director, Kendall County Forest Preserve District