

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

MARCH 1, 2016

I. Call to Order

President Wehrli called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm 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, 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

No public comments were offered by those in attendance.

VII. Approval of Claims in an Amount Not-to-Exceed \$8,371.03

Commissioner Davidson made a motion to approve claims in an amount not-to-exceed \$8,371.03. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

President Wehrli reported that an audit of the electric service charges is underway.

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

Commissioner Purcell entered the meeting at 6:02 pm.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

- a. Forest Preserve Commission Meeting – February 16, 2016
- b. Forest Preserve Finance Committee Meeting – February 25, 2016

Commissioner Davidson made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for the Forest Preserve Commission meeting held on February 16, 2016, and the Finance Committee meeting held on February 25, 2016 as presented. Seconded by Commissioner Shaw. All, aye. Opposed, none. Motion passed unanimously.

IX. Ordinance #16-03-001 An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of Not-to-Exceed \$10,000,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016, of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve Ordinance #16-03-001 authorizing the issuance of not-to-exceed \$10,000,000 general obligation refunding bonds, Series 2016, of the Kendall County Forest Preserve District. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

President Wehrli reported that the refunding project is underway. Commissioner Gryder inquired into whether the District was on track for a May 1, 2016 closing date. Director Guritz reported there was a slight delay in putting out the call for underwriters, but the May 1, 2016 closing is reasonable.

Commissioner Gilmour asked about the anticipated savings. Director Guritz reported that the anticipated savings is approximately \$1.1 million, resulting in an overall savings to the average taxpayer of \$26 per household for an average home value of just over \$200,000.

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

X. Resolution #16-03-002 A Resolution of Appreciation to Acknowledge and Authorize The Conservation Foundation's Contribution of an Ecological Restoration Project at Schessler's Fen

Commissioner Cullick made a motion to approve Resolution #16-03-002 to acknowledge and authorize the Conservation Foundation's contribution of an ecological restoration project at Schessler's Fen. Seconded by Commissioner Gryder.

Director Guritz reported that in honor of the late Harold Schessler, The Conservation Foundation approached the District to sponsor and contribute an ecological restoration project at Schessler's Fen valued at just under \$8,300 with Bedrock Earth Landscapes, LLC. The firm carries the requisite insurance.

Commissioner Koukol asked whether this would require continued upkeep and maintenance. President Wehrli stated that all natural areas require ongoing restoration and management, but appreciated the significance of the contribution in terms of providing restoration assistance to the fen area to support the rare plants present at the site.

Commissioner Purcell inquired into the source of the District's mission statement included with the Resolution. Director Guritz responded that the mission statement is a paraphrase of the stated purposes within the Illinois Downstate Forest Preserve District Act.

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

XI. Executive Session

None.

XII. Other Items of Business

Director Guritz reported that the Maramech Forest Preserve restoration project is underway, with a significant amount of honeysuckle already cleared. The work will continue next week with a large workday that will take place on either Wednesday or Thursday, weather permitting.

Commissioner Gryder inquired into whether additional costs will be incurred for ash tree clearing activities. Director Guritz stated that the bulk of clearing needs was completed last winter, where the focus was on protecting the District's buildings and high-use areas. Ash trees continue to fall within preserve areas, with staff clearing of trees across trails expected to continue over the next few years after high wind days.

President Wehrli reported that the Stephanie's Garden Stakeholder's Group had met to discuss Commission directions and first-phase plans for the buildout of the nature play space at Hoover Forest Preserve, with the group planning to present plans at an upcoming Commission meeting.

XIII. Citizens to Be Heard

An individual present, who did not state their name for the record, stated that whoever is in favor of the cupcake ordinance would have the individual's vote in the upcoming election. President Wehrli stated that this would be discussed at the Kendall County Board meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

Commissioner Gryder made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Koukol. Aye, all. Opposed, none. Meeting adjourned at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

David Guritz
Director, Kendall County Forest Preserve District